Chapter 18. War and Peace, 1916–1939

World War I, 1916–1919

In 1916 the U.S. Army practically deserted the Presidio of San Francisco. A year later, its garrison increased to a level never seen before, with more than 7,000 personnel preparing to fight the war in Europe.

The distant thunder from Europe's Western Front resulted in the closure of the Panama-Pacific International Exposition at the end of 1915. The 24th Infantry Regiment departed the Presidio in January 1916 to take station at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming. The garrison dropped precipitously from more than 1,700 personnel to a mere 86 men. That figure failed to exceed 100 throughout 1916, dropping to 2 officers and 16 men in June, reminiscent of the state of affairs in 1848.[1]

The monthly reports prepared by the post medical officer during these months disclosed that 70 civilians (20 men, 22 women, and 28 children) lived on the post. In August the medics treated coast artillerymen from Forts Baker and Barry, as well as men from the Quartermaster Corps and the Signal Corps. The old post hospital admitted 16 patients that month. A little known activity that year was the Presidio Noncommissioned Officers' School. It existed from at least June 1916 to May 1917, when it closed.[2]

Events on the Mexican border in 1916 affected the Presidio even though it no longer garrisoned combat troops. Revolution and counter-revolution continued in Mexico and American troops under Generals Funston and Pershing remained on the al7ert. By 1916 Francisco "Pancho" Villa, who was at odds with the central government in Mexico City and who controlled much of northern Mexico, instigated a number of border incidents. On March 9 a band of his men numbering more than 500 attacked the border town Columbus, New Mexico, killing American citizens and soldiers and destroying property. The next day President Woodrow Wilson ordered Pershing's Punitive Expedition into Mexico to assist the Mexican government in the capture of Villa. In addition to the Regular Army forces, the President called 75,000 members of the National Guard to the border. In July the Presidio of San Francisco became a receiving station for recruits enlisting in the militia† in the service of the United States.[3]

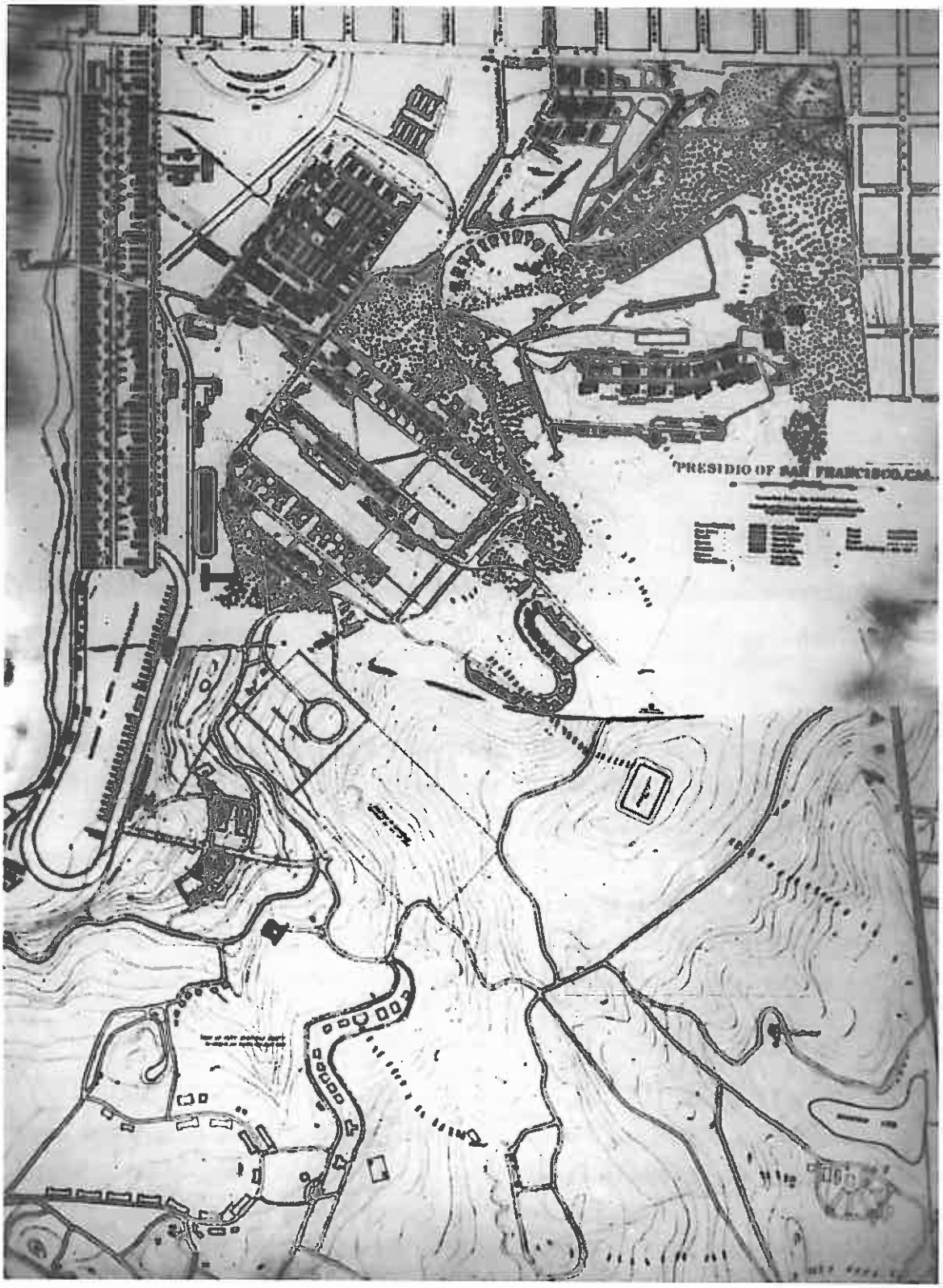
While not causing an immediate effect on the Presidio's fortunes, the National Defense Act of 1916 had a significant impact a few months later. In addition to authorizing strength increases in both the Regular Army and the National Guard, it established an Officers' and an Enlisted Reserve Corps to be raised in time of war and established the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) in colleges and universities. Earlier, in 1913, Chief of Staff Leonard Wood had held college students' military instruction camps at Monterey, California, and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, to which the students paid their own way. Now in 1916 seven such camps were held, including one at the Presidio. This time the Army paid for transportation and subsistence.[4]

On April 6, 1917, the United States declared war on Germany. Additional quarters and training facilities became a necessity throughout the country. The Quartermaster Corps lost its responsibility for new construction and a Cantonment Division operated directly under the secretary of war. At the Presidio, on the exposition grounds in the lower post, North Cantonment quickly sprang up. The temporary, wood-frame, single-story buildings consisted of 81 barracks, 60 lavatories, 45 mess halls, post exchanges and storehouses, with a capacity for 6,000 personnel. A smaller cantonment for training coast artillerymen was constructed on Fort Winfield Scott's drill grounds.[5]

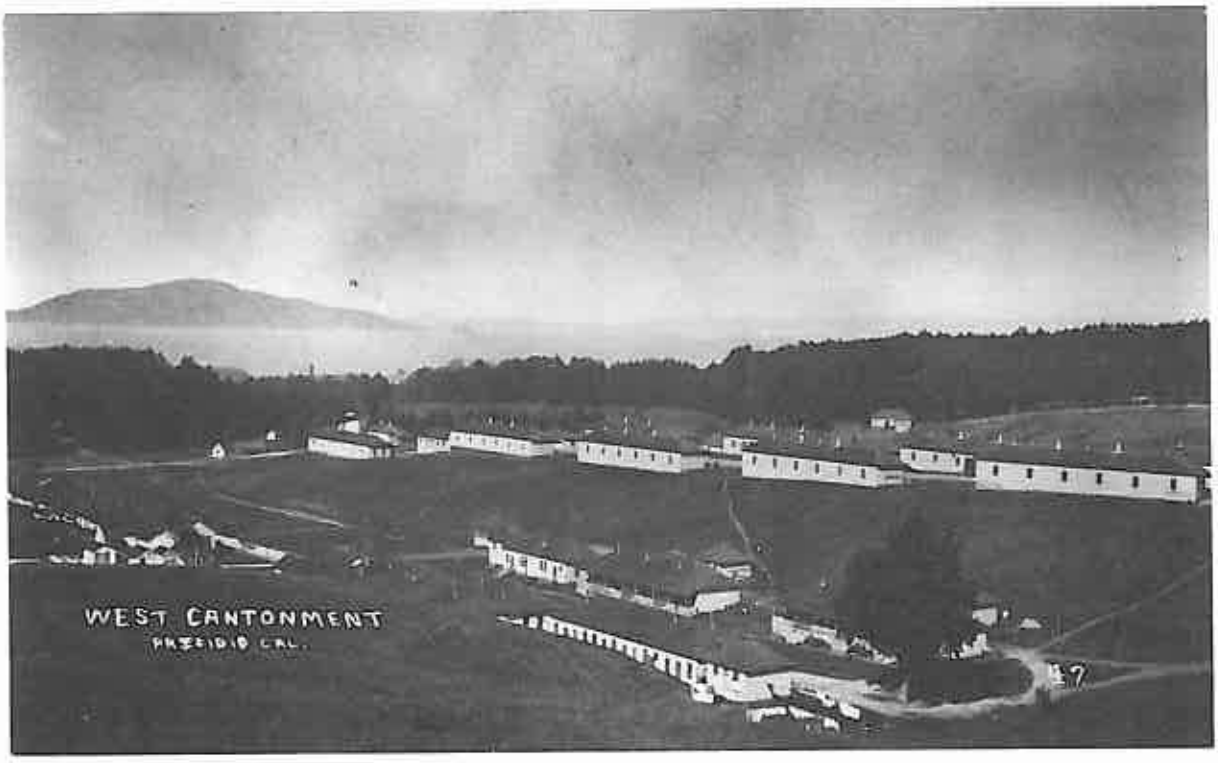
Whether North Cantonment could house 6,000 personnel or the 4,000 the War Department reported, all the Presidio, East and West Cantonments, main post, and the new North Cantonment, soon felt the pressures of a major war.[6] New arrivals at the Presidio may have felt the initial confusion of the new adventure as expressed in the following:

> Cantonments and training schools blossomed all over the country. The Regular and the newcomer found themselves thrown into a hectic life totally different from the past. Gypsying wives, following their menfolk, found lodging where best they could. Some newcomers, brought into immediate contact with existing garrison life, floundered, bewildered by the code and customs of which they had known nothing. Welcomed warmly by some, they were snubbed by others of the "old" Army. Both newcomer and oldtimer suffered equally from scrounging landlords and shopkeepers.[7]

The 1st Battalion of the 12th Infantry, which regiment had left the Presidio for the Mexican border in 1914, returned in 1917 and went into camp at the North Cantonment. There the experienced 12th supplied the cadre for the establishment of two new Regular Army infantry regiments, the 62d and 63d. The three formed the Provisional Infantry Brigade and trained for



1919 plan of Presidio of San Francisco showing the World War I North Cantonment, capacity 6,000 men (upper right). It included the racetrack from the Panama-Pacific International Exposition. *National Archives.*



West Cantonment, circa 1915. Officers' quarters are on the extreme left and lower right, enlisted barracks on the ridge at the center. Angel Island is in distance. View from the west or southwest. *Presidio Museum Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

the war in Europe, the 12th and the 62d scheduled for the 8th Division†, the 63d for the 11th Division. Also returning from the border, the Ambulance Company 2 and Field Hospital 2 took up quarters in the Presidio proper.[8]

In April 1917 the first students for the enlisted men's and civilians' 2,500-man officers' training school arrived at the Presidio. This camp opened in May and at the end of three months more than 1,000 graduates had been recommended for commissions. A second officers' training camp began immediately.[9]

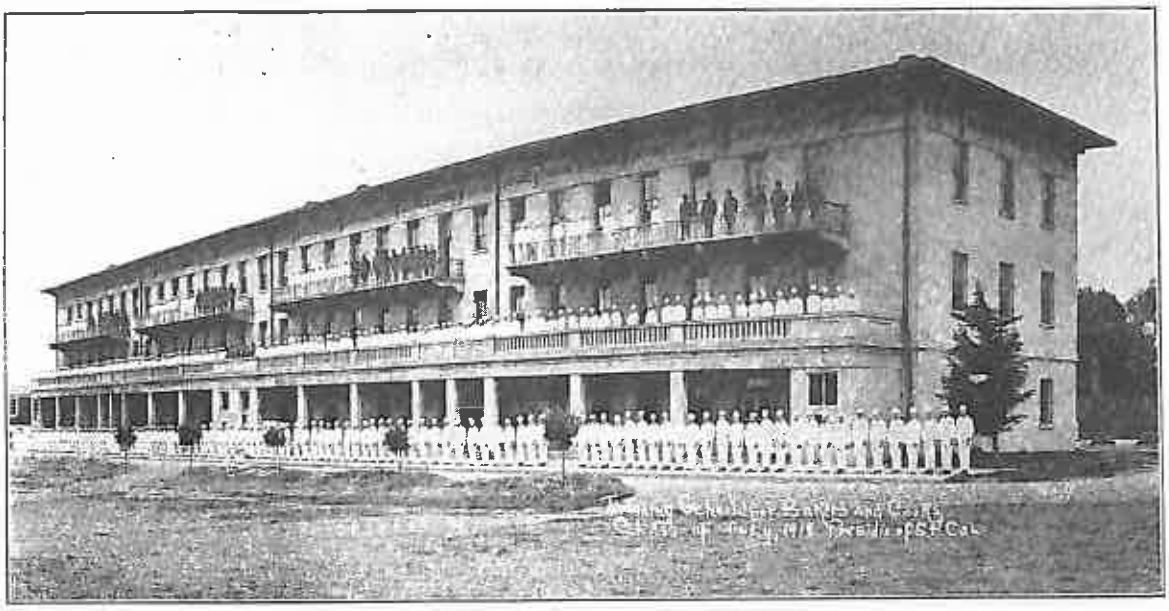
The war affected the Coast Artillery Corps at Fort Winfield Scott in several ways. The number of coast artillery companies declined even before the Army began dismounting weapons at those batteries considered obsolete. In 1916 the 13th Company transferred to Fort Miley and the 64th Company to a camp at Calexico, California. Two companies, the 61st and 67th, transferred to France in 1917 where they served in an antiaircraft battalion. While the Coast Artillery Corps' strength figures for 1917 and 1918 at Fort Winfield have not been found, it is probable they were considerably smaller than just a few years earlier.[10]

Fort Winfield Scott did, however, have an active training program during the war. In 1917 a seven-company Coast Artillery cantonment located on the post's drill field north of the parade ground consisted of 14 barracks, seven messes, and seven latrines. A short distance away, 14 sets of officers' quarters completed the camp. An undated map, circa 1917 or 1918, showed more structures across a road from the barracks. This group was labeled "Enlisted Specialist School" while the cantonment was now labeled "Lancaster Cantonment," probably because of its nearness to Battery Lancaster.[11]

In June 1918 three ROTC camps opened at Plattsburg Barracks, New York; Fort Sheridan, Illinois; and at the Presidio of San Francisco. Together they trained 6,500 college students, the first of whom received their commissions in September. The Presidio's first ROTC camp began operations around June 6, 1918. A memorandum from that date announced that the class would attend lectures in the YMCA building (the enlisted club during the exposition). The next day the men marched to the former fair's Oregon Building to have photographs taken. Other documents told of the 12 companies (A through M) having courses in bayonet, hand grenades, physical training, rifle range, and field firing. The rifle range was located at or near the exposition racetrack at the west end of the cantonment. By July the companies called themselves the ROTC Provisional Regiment. Colleges represented included the University of Denver, University of Washington, University of Utah, University of California, Colorado School of Mines, New Mexico Military Institute, Washington State College, University of Oregon, and many others. Shortly thereafter a new camp was announced to start July 18, its quota being only 250 men. This class, designated the Students Army Training Corps, lasted for two months.

In August the ROTC men marched to the Presidio's main parade ground to witness a review of the 63d Infantry Regiment at full war strength by the Presidio's commanding officer, Brig. Gen. E. J. McClernand. They were promised that after the review, the 63d would hold a "singing exercise." Two weeks later the French general Paul G. Pau visited the ROTC camp to observe the work being done.[12]

Because the Army had abolished the venerable monthly Post Returns at the end of 1916, it has proved difficult to determine the full extent of the Presidio's garrison during the war years. This void was partially filled in 1949 with the publication of *Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces In the World War*. According to that document the Presidio housed the following organizations in 1917–1918:



In 1918, building 35, the former cavalry barracks built in 1912, served as a school and quarters for army bakers and cooks. In July the graduating class posed with the school's instructors in front of the building and on its two levels of porches. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Camps

Officers' Training Camp	1st camp, May 15–August 11, 1917 2d camp, August 27–November 27, 1917
Students' Army Training Corps	One camp, July–September 1918

Troops

Bakers and Cooks School

Presidio headquarters

Ordnance detachment

Signal Supply Detachment 8

Veterinarian detachment

Divisional Units

8th Division — 12th Infantry, 62d Infantry, 2d Field Artillery (mobilizing for overseas)

11th Division — 63d Infantry (mobilizing for overseas)

13th Division — 44th Infantry (garrison duty)

40th Division — 143d Field Artillery (mobilizing for overseas)

91st Division — Division headquarters, 363d Infantry, 348th Machine Gun Battalion,

159th Infantry Regiment

145th Machine Gun Battalion

65th Field Artillery Brigade (less the 145th Field Artillery Regiment)

115th Signal Battalion (demobilizing)
316th Engineers (demobilizing)
319th Engineers (demobilizing)
347th Field Artillery (demobilizing)

Non-Divisional Units

Artillery	First Army Artillery Park
Coast Artillery	1st Antiaircraft Sector; 40th and 67th Regiments
Medical Department	Base Hospitals 30, 47, 96, and 210; Evacuation Hospital 17
Motor Transportation Corps	6th Motor Command; 406th and 411 Motor Supply Trains
Quartermaster Corps	Bakery Companies 391 and 416
Signal Corps	322 Field Signal Battalion; 411th Training Battalion
U.S. Guards	6th, 23d, 24th, and 25th Battalions; Company D, 30th Battalion; 37th, 38th, and 43d Battalions

The Presidio of San Francisco became a demobilization center† on December 7, 1918. The number of personnel demobilized by May 3, 1919, amounted to 29,270.[13]

Equally lacking from the records were the day-to-day events that lent life to the statistics. Still, a few events emerged. Oregon State's exposition building located at the northeast corner of North Cantonment continued to provide facilities to the troops throughout the war. The columns for the huge building were solid logs 4 feet in diameter and 35 feet high. A clear span, 75 feet by 150 feet, occupied the interior and the overall dimensions measured 135 feet by 255 feet. A "magnificent" flagstaff in front was said to be the tallest in the world. Even before the exposition ended, an effort was mounted to have the Army acquire the $175,000 building free of cost. The secretary of war concluded that the building was neither permanent nor suited for military use and declined the offer. The building was demolished after the war. The Army also made use of the Chinese building standing to the south of North Cantonment; the troops attended lectures on gas defense there.[14]

The one structure from the exposition that the Army retained for a time was the Palace of Fine Arts. At one time it became an army warehouse (former building M-29). Due to deterioration, however, the Army decided to demolish the structure in 1924. The citizens of San Francisco raised a great protest, causing the Army to delay demolition. After much negotiating, the U.S.

Presidio Fire Station, circa 1920. Cannon balls continue to decorate the curbs. *J. D. Givens, photographer. Collection of Chief Bill Williams, Presidio Fire Department, retired.*

Army conveyed the site of the Palace of Fine Arts to the City and County of San Francisco in 1927.[15]

Although the battles occurred far away, the war influenced all aspects of the Presidio's routine. One order prohibited army trucks and wagons from passing through Golden Gate Park. Sgt. Ruth Farnam of the Serbian Army, lectured the 63d Infantry on her experiences in the Balkan wars. From time to time the troops attended rallies urging them to purchase Liberty Bonds. The post medical officer advised the San Francisco health officer that a Presidio soldier had acquired an acute case of gonorrhea in Room 112 of the Woodstalk Hotel. He requested that the city take the "proper steps." The transfer of an enlisted man disclosed the fact that the Pigeon Section, 8th Service Company, Signal Corps, formed a part of the Presidio garrison.

A barracks fire in 1918 brought attention to the Presidio's fire department and its chief, Timothy J. Harrington, formerly a member of the San Francisco fire department. The Army built a fire station [218] at the main post that year. Constructed by post labor from material

salvaged from the exposition's grandstand, the wood-frame, "plastered"-exterior building cost $2,050.[16]

The first months of the war saw a rapid turnover in post commanders, several of them being Coast Artillery Corps officers from Fort Winfield Scott. Not until November 1917 did Brig. Gen. Edward J. McClernand take command. He remained in command until February 1919, when the revolving door syndrome resumed once again. The war caused the appointment of the Presidio's first post censor when Lt. E. C. Dresser assumed the assignment. The time-span that the 44th Infantry formed the garrison has not been determined, and only one strength figure for the Presidio during 1917–1918 has been found — 7,206 soldiers in January 1918. Fort Winfield Scott had two commanding officers during the war: Col. John P. Haines and Col. Frederick Marsh, both of the Coast Artillery Corps.

A worldwide epidemic of influenza reached the United States in early September 1918. By mid-October it had affected the Bay Area. On October 14, post headquarters issued extensive orders that prohibited civilians from entering the reservation, except those tradesmen and others having business and who held passes. Likewise, most of the garrison found itself restricted to the Presidio. Only commissioned officers had no restrictions; and married men whose families lived in the city could go off post. All YMCA and Knights of Columbus entertainment on the reservation was canceled. Later, orders announced the distribution of gauze masks.[17]

Uniform regulations issued in 1918 described both the garrison and off-post dress:

> **Garrison**
> Officers: service hat with hat cord, peaked, four indentations; olive drab coat (olive drab shirt for drill); service breeches; russet leather shoes and leggins, or boots; ribbons and marksmanship badges optional.
>
> Enlisted men: service hat with cord, peaked, four indentations; olive drab coat or shirt; service breeches; russet leather shoes, canvas or leather reinforced leggins; ribbons and badges optional.
>
> **Off-Post**
> Similar to on-post, except officers wore a white collar or stock, white cuffs, and ribbons.[18]

When the fighting ceased in November 1918, the Army established 30 demobilization centers in the United States so that men could be discharged close to their homes. The Presidio of San Francisco became one of these. Within nine months the Army demobilized nearly 3,250,000 soldiers. Among the units reporting to the "Demobilization Camp," the 91st Division, which had a large number of Californians, arrived in May 1919. This division had organized at Camp Lewis, Washington, in August 1917. In France in November 1918 the 91st Division, as part of the U.S. First Army, played an important role in the critical Meuse-Argonne Campaign. Demobilized on May 13, it was reconstituted and became a part of the Organized Reserves in 1921. This reorganization took place at the Presidio. The division served in Europe during World War II. In 1994 the 91st Division, then a training division, had its headquarters at Fort Baker, California.[19]

In addition to the North and Coast Artillery cantonments, both the Presidio and Fort Winfield Scott constructed a number of other buildings between 1915 and 1918. The Quartermaster Corps' San Francisco General Depot erected six large one-story warehouses [1183, 1184, 1185, 1186, 1187, and 1188] for storing medical and signal supplies in the Lower Presidio. Another smaller warehouse [230] was built near Letterman General Hospital. Twelve new officers' quarters graced a knoll between the East and West cantonments, facing today's Presidio Boulevard. Named East Terrace (and sometimes called Presidio Terrace), the quarters were generally similar to those on Infantry Terrace, each having two stories, stuccoed concrete walls, and hip-and-gable tiled roofs. Five of the buildings were duplexes housing company-grade officers [540, 541, 542, 544, and 548]; and four were designated for single-family field grade officers [543, 545, 547, and 549]. Costs ranged between $6,800 and $10,500 each.

The industrial area at Fort Winfield Scott saw several new structures in 1917–1918: a quartermaster office [1220] adjacent to the quartermaster warehouse [1219], a quartermaster shop and paint shop [1227], a warehouse [1230], and flammable storage [1245]. An ordnance storehouse [1659] erected about that time east of Battery Marcus Miller later became occupied by the Golden Gate Bridge District. At the officers' row on Kobbe Avenue, several of the quarters acquired garages [1305, 1307, 1313, 1317, and 1319]. Also on Kobbe Avenue a large ordnance storehouse [1340] was erected west of officers' row in 1917. In the vicinity of the fort's non-commissioned officers' quarters built in 1909–1912, the quartermaster added a small set of sergeant's quarters [1240] in 1918.

Above: Warehouses 1167, 1163, 1162, and 1161, on Gorgas Street. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, June 1990.*

Below: Warehouse with loading dock, 1162. Built in 1919 on Gorgas Street. View toward the east. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, June 1990.*

Above: Another view of warehouse 1162, on Gorgas Street. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, June 1990.*

Below: "East Terrace" or "Presidio Terrace" officers' quarters on Presidio Boulevard, constructed in 1917. Shown here in a 1927 view toward the north. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

While the Presidio of San Francisco lay far from the battles in Europe, it played an important role in the mobilization and training of troops for the Great War, not only for Europe but Asia as well. When peace came, the Presidio welcomed home the veterans of those far-away struggles.

Siberia 1918–1920

Russian-Japanese rivalry in northeast Asia intensified through the 1890s, culminating in war in 1904. President Theodore Roosevelt arranged a peace between the two countries at Portsmouth, New Hampshire. Japan took control of the southern half of Sakhalin Island, Port Arthur (Lushun), and the South Manchuria Railroad. About that time Japan also occupied Korea, which had been under Russian influence. Russia, however, retained full autonomy over its Siberian empire and the Trans–Siberian Railroad that extended 4,700 miles from the Urals to Vladivostok on the Sea of Japan.[20]

In World War I Russia joined the Allies in the struggle against Germany and the Central Powers. Russia suffered serious reversals on the battlefields, and repression and corruption at home resulted in revolution and the overthrow of the autocratic imperial monarchy early in 1917. In November of that year the Bolshevik party under the leadership of Nicolai Lenin and Leon Trotsky overthrew the Kerensky provisional government and seized power. A flood of refugees — privileged class, army officers, right wingers, anarchists, Cossacks, and others — poured into Siberia where the Bolsheviks attempted to form "soviets" at the same time. Tension mounted at Vladivostok, now the principal seaport. In December 1917 Japanese, British, and American warships arrived at Vladivostok to protect nationalists and their property.[21]

The Bolshevik and German governments signed a peace treaty in February 1918. The Allies became fearful that German and Austrian prisoners of war being released would dominate affairs in Siberia. There was also the matter of some 50,000 Czechoslovakian soldiers who had deserted from the Austrian-Hungarian army and had joined the Russians against Germany. These Czechs arranged with the Bolshevik government for transportation across Siberia to Vladivostok and then to Europe via the Panama Canal to fight in France.

By May 1918 the vanguard of the Czechs had reached Vladivostok while the main body had taken over several important railroad towns. A month later they overthrew the soviet gov-

ernment in Vladivostok and instead of leaving Russia they controlled critical areas in Siberia. In August the United States, Japan, and Great Britain declared that they did not intend to interfere with either the political integrity or the internal affairs of Russia, but they would help the Czechs against the Austrian-German prisoners of war who were attacking them. Each of the allies agreed to send about 10,000 troops. It became apparent, however, that each of the allies had its own interpretation of the intervention. France was interested in reconstituting an eastern front. Britain wanted to stamp out communism in the Russian far east. Japan was determined to support anticommunism and reactionary factions. (Some suspected Japan of seeking the annexation of Siberian territory.) The United States appeared to have no definite policy except to help extract the Czechs.[22]

In August 1918 Allied troops began arriving at Vladivostok. Both the United States and China sent about 10,000 soldiers as had been agreed. The British, French, and Italian forces combined amounted to a little less than 10,000. The Japanese, however, poured in 70,000 men and the Japanese general Kituz Otani sought to command the whole.[23]

Back in California, while the Army built up and trained infantry regiments at the Presidio of San Francisco, it also established Camp Fremont at Menlo Park, 25 miles to the south, in 1917. The camp proper contained 1,200 of the 7,200 acres of the new reserve. When completed the camp consisted of 1,124 wooden buildings and had a tent capacity of 30,000 men. Construction costs amounted to $1.9 million. Regular Army regiments began arriving in September 1917 — 8th Infantry from the Philippines, the 13th Infantry in November, and the 12th and 62d Regiments from the Presidio in January 1918. Probably the 27th Field Artillery also arrived from the Presidio. In 1918 the 27,000 soldiers at Camp Fremont mobilized to form the 8th ("Golden Arrow") Division on January 5 and trained for combat in Europe. On July 18 Maj. Gen. William S. Graves arrived at Camp Fremont to take command. He had received orders not to lead the 8th to France but to command a Siberian Expeditionary Force.[24]

On August 3, 1918, General Graves selected 100 officers and 5,000 men from the 8th Division and transferred them to the Siberian force. In the Philippines two infantry regiments, the 27th and 31st, prepared to sail to Siberia to complete Graves' command. The 27th Regiment arrived at Vladivostok on August 16.[25]

Graves and the initial force from Camp Fremont (the staff, 40 officers, and 1,889 men) sailed from Fort Mason on army transport *Thomas* on August 14. Battleship *Oregon* and U.S. gunboat

Vicksburg accompanied the ship. When Graves observed that the warships could not keep up, he ordered *Thomas* to proceed without them. The expedition arrived at Vladivostok September 1. The rest of the command followed.[26]

American soldiers found Vladivostok a cheerless place. Among the problems they encountered were body lice, a lack of firewood, illnesses such as cholera and influenza, and a lack of sanitation. Also disquieting was rampant venereal disease. General Graves wrote that the number of prostitutes was appalling; of Vladivostok's 100,000 population, no fewer than 8,000 of its citizens engaged in the sex trade. Law did not exist nor did anyone have the authority to establish laws. Recently a British soldier had died from drinking wood alcohol. While barracks existed, they lacked doors, windows, and bathing facilities. Moreover these buildings had to be scrubbed for a month to make them habitable.[27]

In September 1918 the War Department planned to send Base Hospital 93 from Camp Lewis, Washington, to Siberia. General Graves' headquarters, however, requested that a detachment of nurses (a chief nurse, 25 nurses, and a dietitian) be sent instead. These women, believed to have been recruited from civilian life, sailed from San Francisco as part of Evacuation Hospital 17 for a two-year tour in Siberia. They arrived at Vladivostok on November 4, 1918, and occupied Russian barracks that had been remodeled into apartments. The nurses' morale soon dropped due to the Siberian winter and the primitive environment. In the spring of 1919, the Army's surgeon general decided to shorten their tour to one year with the second year being served in either Hawaii or the Philippines. The last group of the army nurses left Siberia on April 1, 1920, and reported for duty in the Philippine Islands.[28]

General Graves believed that his instructions from the War Department imposed upon him the duty of remaining absolutely neutral in any conflict between the communists and their reactionary opponents and he fiercely followed this course. The U.S. Department of State believed that the U.S. forces should fight Bolsheviks and supported the Russian Admiral Aleksandr Kolchak, a White Russian who had British support. The War Department (and Graves) disagreed, because the Kolchak group treated the peasants badly; besides the policy of the United States was to remain neutral (Kolchak was executed in 1920). When the Department of State complained that Graves failed to cooperate, Secretary of War Newton D. Baker told President Wilson that Graves followed the President's instructions to the letter. Wilson was satisfied.

By July 1918 the Czechoslovak forces no longer desired to fight in France but had decided to remain in Siberia at least for the time being. They associated with anti-Bolshevik groups along the Trans-Siberian railroad. By then the Allies saw their missions as being to provide: assistance to the Czechoslovaks in controlling the railroad; to prevent prisoner-of-war activity in Siberia; to establish a front against possible Austro-German advances (daily becoming less of a threat); and to retain territory under anti-Bolshevik authority.

When Graves first arrived in Vladivostok, General Otani, the senior allied commander, said that he commanded the United States and other troops. Graves responded that he was not under Japanese control and the issue ceased to be a matter of discussion. Still, Japan attempted to use the presence of American troops to its own advantage, sometimes cooperating, sometimes refusing to work in harmony. On the positive side, Otani notified Graves in October that the Emperor and Empress had expressed profound sympathy for him and hoped he remained healthy in spite of the rigorous climate.

By early 1919 matters had changed considerably. Graves informed Washington that the Japanese were arming the Cossacks whose leaders now announced that the country's troubles were due to the presence of American troops. Graves became convinced that Japan did not want order in Siberia. In a letter to Otani he requested an investigation of an occurrence where Japanese soldiers with bayonets had arrested two American soldiers because a Japanese civilian said they had struck him. On another occasion Graves reported that Japanese newspapers broadcasted that the United States had motives regarding Siberia that were antagonistic to the interests of Japan. Finally, in September 1919, Lt. Col. R. L. Eichelberger, Graves' intelligence officer, prepared a 20-page report on Japanese unfriendliness, citing anti-American propaganda in Siberian newspapers, a lack of respect for American officers, and attacking an American officer with rifle butts, among other unfriendly acts.[29]

Until the signing of the Armistice that ended the fighting in Europe in November 1918, the American forces had performed ordinary garrison duty in the Vladivostok area. After that, they helped guard a 100-mile stretch of the Trans-Siberian Railroad, concentrating in the Vladivostok region and the South Ussuri area near the Chinese (Manchurian) border. Small detachments took posts along the track. At some points only boxcars provided shelter against the coming winter. One company provided a guard at the "Suchan" coal mines. Other units guarded prisoners of war at a Base Prison Camp for whom Graves sought adequate food and clothing.

A history of the 27th Regiment recounted some of its Siberian adventures. It first came under fire in August 1918 when it came in contact with Chinese bandits. The clash resulted in one American being wounded and unknown casualties inflicted upon the enemy. Despite Graves' orders, two squads of Company C, 27th Infantry, came in contact with 150 Bolshevik irregulars at Kraeffski railroad station, but no shots were fired. The Bolsheviks later returned, reinforced with 35 Chinese bandits. Meanwhile, a platoon from Company F had replaced Company C. A fire fight broke out; an American sergeant was killed and two privates captured. The skirmish lasted 30 minutes, and the two prisoners gained their freedom later. Another incident at Uspenka involved a clash between men of the 27th and a band of Bolsheviks. In this exchange two Americans were lightly wounded, but the enemy had two killed, several wounded, and several captured. But, as the author of the unit history wrote, the Americans had more trouble with the Cossacks than with the Bolsheviks.

General Graves maintained throughout the Siberian adventure that his troops did not fight the Bolsheviks. On one occasion, however, an error may have been made: "The United States troops in Siberia never engaged in fighting Red troops, before or after the Armistice. They did take part in a campaign in September 1918, but the enemy forces were reported as being partly composed of German and Austrian prisoners. I believed this report, else American troops would not have taken part in the campaign."[30]

The first American returnees reached San Francisco for demobilization at the Presidio in October 1919. Newspaper publisher William Randolph Hearst, who had been against the Siberian intervention from the beginning, raged in the *San Francisco Examiner* when transport *Thomas* docked at Fort Mason. The paper told of stories of low morale and how bolshevism had spread among the soldiers themselves. Between the cruelties of American officers and the unfriendliness of the Japanese, reported the *Examiner*, Siberia had become intolerable. Of the 543 doughboys† aboard, 76 entered Letterman Hospital, 8 of them for insanity. Melancholia and morbidness had affected the troops, especially after American forces in Europe had returned home while these men remained in eastern Asia. The paper printed a poem by a Corporal Dorsey:

(to the tune "A Long, Long Trail")

There's a long, long sea-lane winding
Into dear old 'Frisco's gates,
Where we know we'll find a restaurant

That serves big juicy steaks.
There's a long, long trip before us,
But we'll pass the time somehow,
Till the day when we can gladly say,
To hell with transport chow.[31]

The last Americans withdrew from Siberia on April 1, 1920. Only the Japanese remained. An American lieutenant wrote, "Not a soldier knew, no, not even vaguely, why he had fought, or where he was going now, or why his comrades were left behind beneath the wooden crosses." General Graves wrote, "It has always been difficult for me...to understand why the United States ever acceded to the desires of England, France, and Japan to send United States troops to Siberia." And, "I have never been able to understand by what means or by what agencies the people of the United States were led to believe our troops went to Siberia to fight Bolshevism." Finally, "I was in command of the United States troops sent to Siberia and, I must admit, I do not know what the United States was trying to accomplish by military intervention." The Siberian adventure had ended.

In a foreword to General Graves' account of the Siberian affair, Secretary of War Newton D. Baker summarized its history best when he called it "a strange adventure."[32]

Two Decades of Peace, 1919–1939

Americans in the 1920s dreamed that great wars had ended forever. Someday, perhaps, conflict with Japan might occur, but that would be primarily a naval war. While the Army proposed a permanent Regular Army of 500,000 men in 1919, Congress reduced the Army to fewer than 119,000 personnel by 1927. Historian Russell Weigley has written, "Altogether, despite the encouraging possibilities raised by the National Defense Act of 1920, the Army during the 1920s and early 1930s may have been less ready to function as a fighting force than at any time in its history." In the postwar reorganization, a new army headquarters at San Francisco was created, and it moved its offices from the city to the Presidio. The Presidio continued in its role as an infantry post while Fort Winfield Scott remained the home of coast artillerymen. New construction during the "Roaring Twenties" remained at a low ebb, but in the Great Depression of the 1930s increased federal funding swept away much of the temporary cantonment construction that had become decrepit.[33]

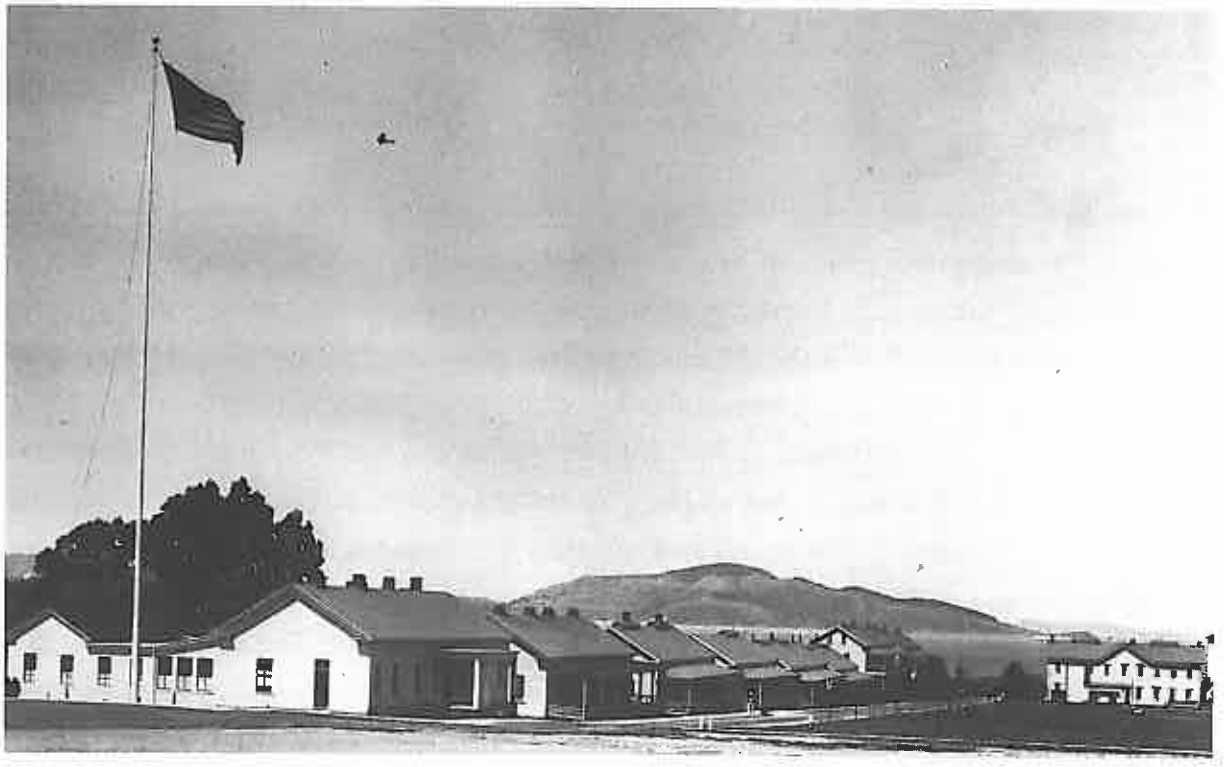
Presidio of San Francisco, October 20, 1925, with the North Cantonment partially extant. The old and new parade grounds at the main post are clearly delineated. Letterman General Hospital is at the extreme left, center. The Presidio forest appears mature. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

As the year 1919 unrolled the Presidio witnessed the continuing demobilization of thousands of soldiers. On one occasion a board of officers made recommendations for commissions in the Regular Army. Shortly afterwards a large number of lieutenants received 15 days' leave "for the purpose of securing employment."[34] The 44th Infantry Regiment continued to be the principal organization on the post until the 19th Regiment (The Rock of Chickamauga) relieved it about 1920. Before its departure the 44th Infantry Band played the "National Air" on Memorial Day 1919. About that time Pvt. Richard E. Hewson, Motor Transport Corps, caused the death of a civilian while driving his truck. While a board of officers investigated the accident, another board attempted to set fair prices for the services of tailors, barbers, shoemakers, and bootblacks at the Presidio. In November 1919 a group of army wives met to

General of the Armies, John J. Pershing, second from the left, inspecting the troops at the Presidio of San Francisco, probably on April 23, 1923. Maj. Gen. Mason M. Patrick, chief of the Air Service, U.S. Army, third from the left and nearest the camera, is accompanying Pershing. In the background is building 87, formerly a cavalry barracks. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

form the Presidio's Women's Club. Eighty-eight women joined and planned their first projects — a milk fund for needy army families and a lending library. Over its long life the club sponsored a myriad of activities — hospital visits, post nursery, thrift shop, youth activities, benefit drives, and national charity fund drives.[35]

A highlight in the Presidio's history occurred in 1920, before the reorganization, when the commander of the American Expeditionary Forces in France, John J. Pershing, returned to the post where most of his family had perished by fire only five years earlier. Met by members of the Army and Navy and distinguished citizens at Oakland on January 24, Pershing was escorted by ferry to San Francisco where he stayed at the St. Francis Hotel. That day he visited wounded soldiers at Letterman General Hospital and addressed the American Legion at the Civic Auditorium. On the following morning he inspected the Presidio, Fort Winfield Scott, the U.S. Marine Hospital, and Fort Miley, including the coastal batteries. Following



The old Civil War era barracks row west of the old parade ground served during the 1920s as offices. The two barracks nearest the camera served as an army headquarters in the 1870s and 1880s. Of the buildings in this scene, only the three two story buildings in the background survived until the closing of the Presidio in 1995. *From a postcard. Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

lunch at the department commander's quarters at Fort Mason, Pershing departed for Los Angeles.[36]

The memory of the Pershing fire must have been on most peoples' minds during the visit. Perhaps that tragedy led the *San Francisco Chronicle* to headline in July, "Fire Protection Withdrawn From S. F. Presidio Post." The article explained how the War Department had issued orders reducing the Presidio's trained firemen from 20 to 7, placing army families and 2,000 patients at Letterman Hospital at risk. These orders had come just after the government had installed two triple-combination fire engines in the 1917 fire station. Photographs of the Presidio's wooden buildings accompanied the article. This condition did not last long; by 1924 a report outlined the state of the Presidio's fire protection:

> Fire protection 1924 — one station, fifteen men (two companies) (six men and one operator to each company and one fire chief)
>
> Apparatus — two hand-drawn hook and ladder trucks; converted Dodge

Roadster to Chemical Tank, Dodge Bros.; one White truck with two 60-gallon tanks

Outside aid — Greenwich and Filmore station, 1 1/2 miles, four minutes.[37]

In 1920 the U.S. Congress passed a new National Defense Act that has been described as "one of the most constructive pieces of military legislation ever adopted in the United States." It established the Army of the United States with its three components: the Regular Army, the civilian National Guard, and the civilian Organized Reserves (Officers' Reserve Corps and Enlisted Reserve Corps). The six territorial departments, including the Western Department headquartered at San Francisco, were abolished and nine corps areas replaced them. The Army drew new boundaries so that all corps areas were about equal in the population available for military service. Each area had six infantry divisions: one Regular Army, two National Guard, and the nucleus of three Organized Reserve. Each area had fixed boundaries and its commander had full tactical and administrative control. The War Department's General Orders 50, August 20, established the Ninth Corps Area with its headquarters at San Francisco, Maj. Gen. Hunter Liggett commanding. It encompassed eight western states: Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, Wyoming, Utah, Nevada, and California.[38]

In 1878, Gen. William Sherman had ordered all military general headquarters to move from their rented facilities in cities to the nearest army posts. At San Francisco the Military Division of the Pacific headquarters moved to the Presidio where two humble Civil War barracks served as offices for the next 10 years. Probably with considerable enthusiasm, headquarters returned to San Francisco in 1887. In the following years efforts to fund a suitable headquarters building either at the Presidio or Fort Mason received no support in the U.S. Congress. With the establishment of the Ninth Corps Area, however, headquarters moved from the Santa Fe Building back to the Presidio in 1921. It occupied the large, three-story, 1912 barracks [35] on the main parade. This time a sense of permanency accompanied the move.[39]

Constituted in February 1901, at the time of the Philippine Insurrection, the Regular Army's 30th Infantry Regiment organized that year at the Presidio of San Francisco; Fort Logan, Utah; and in the Philippines. At the Presidio Companies A, B, C, and D organized as a provisional battalion prior to sailing for the Philippines. There the 30th participated in the Mindoro campaign. When it returned to the United States in 1909, the regiment again was assigned to the Presidio, where it remained until transferring to Alaska in 1912. Assigned to the Third Division in 1917, the 30th distinguished itself in France, particularly in pushing back the

Above: Presidio of San Francisco, 30th Infantry Regiment Review. From left to right: barracks (demolished), barracks 86 and 87, barracks 36, and barracks 35. View toward the north. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

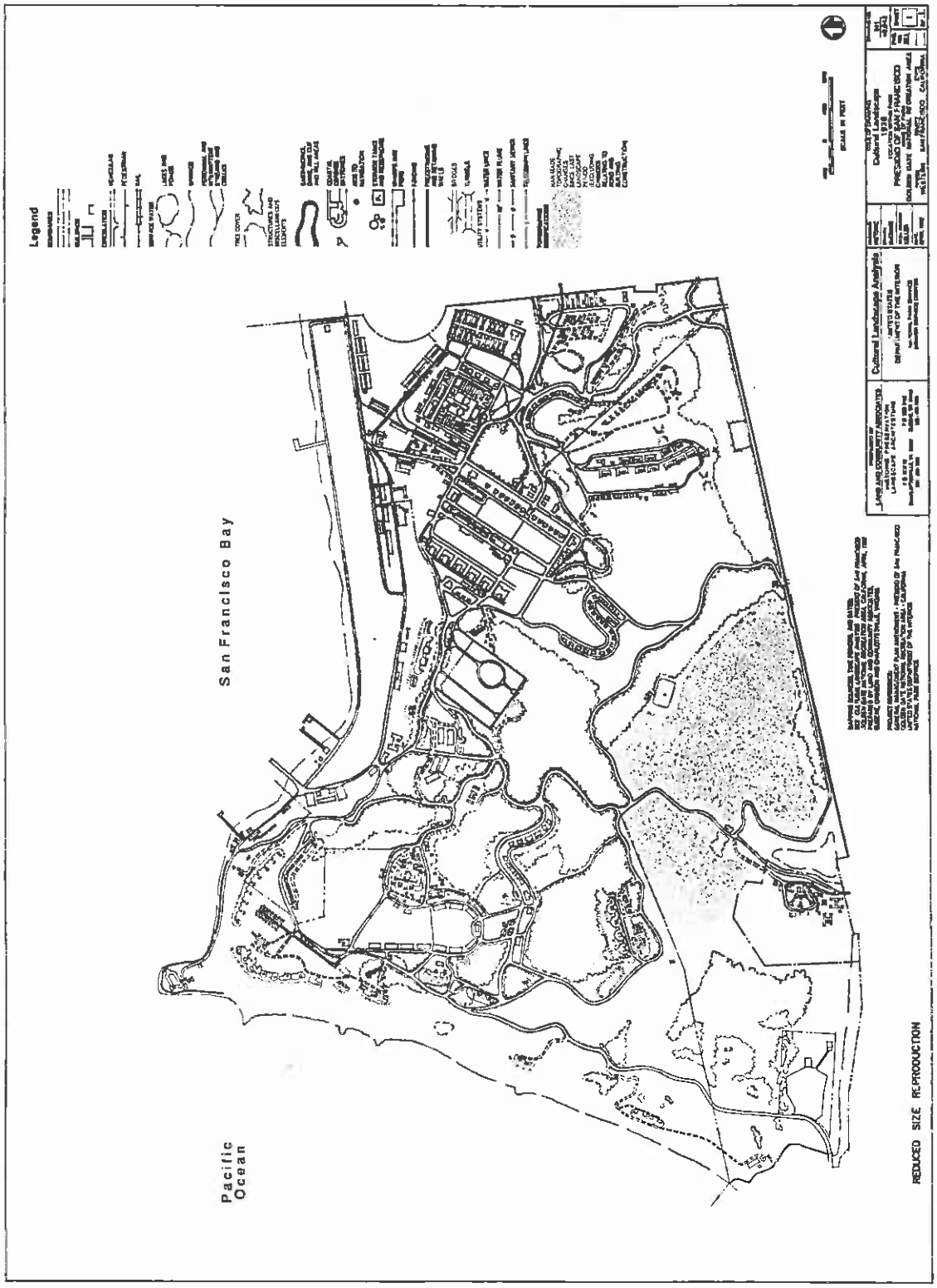
Below: The 30th Infantry Regiment returned to the Presidio in 1922, remaining there until 1941. Here the regiment returns to barracks on Montgomery Street from maneuvers. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

German drive at the Marne in July 1918. The French government awarded the regiment the Croix de Guerre with Palm. In 1921 the Presidio's 19th Infantry transferred to Hawaii. Still assigned to the 3d Division, the "Rock of the Marne," the 30th Infantry Regiment returned to the Presidio in 1922 where it remained for the next 19 years, until 1941.

During this period the commanding officer of the regiment served as the commander of the Presidio as well. The regiment initiated the "Message to Garcia" relay race that became a San Francisco institution for many years. Participants ran the relay with full field pack racing from the San Francisco Civic Center to Crissy Field on the reservation. During its assignment at the Presidio the regiment was adopted as "San Francisco's Own" and the 30th carried a flag bearing the city's seal.[40]

Shortly after the 30th's arrival at the Presidio an anonymous letter arrived at post headquarters. The irate writer said that before the regiment's arrival the post gymnasium [122] had served admirably as such. Now, however, it was being converted into "joints" — a service club, a library, a reading and writing room, a pool hall, a billiard hall, a game room, and a place that sold stamps, all under Capt. C. M. Gale. Just who is this Captain Gale?, the writer demanded.[41]

Trouble came to the 30th Infantry in August 1935 when Col. Irving J. Phillipson took command. The regiment had had many good commanders over the years, but now its luck ran out, "The problem in the Thirtieth Infantry resulted mainly from the callous attitude of Colonel Irving J. Phillipson, the regimental commander, in dealing with his subordinates...morale was poor." Officers boycotted the officers' club and they "hated him and his wife assists him in raising hell with the Regiment." Brig. Gen. George C. Marshall, then assigned to the General Staff, solved the problem by appointing Col. Robert L. Eichelberger to the Presidio. Phillipson survived this incident and went on to become a major general in World War II. Eichelberger, according to his biographer, quickly straightened out the regiment. He allowed the officers to enjoy the social attributes of San Francisco instead of demanding they make the officers' club the center of their social life. While enforcing high standards, he made the 30th a regiment to be proud of. Eichelberger supported regimental boxing, and pistol and rifle teams became army-wide champions. A tough training program kept the regiment moving constantly between the Presidio, Fort Ord, and Fort Lewis. Promoted to brigadier general in 1940, Eichelberger departed the Presidio.



Presidio of San Francisco, 1928. *National Park Service.*

Soldiers, probably 30th Infantry, practicing climbing down Jacob ladders with full backpacks as if down the side of a transport, at the post gymnasium, 122, in 1931, prior to maneuvers in Hawaii. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Another commander of the 30th Infantry and the Presidio, Col. Charles B. Stone, Jr., January 1930–August 1933, received posthumous honor when the regiment's enlisted men planted and dedicated a Monterey cypress (*Cupressus macrocarpa*) in his memory on the Infantry Terrace ridge near Fisher Loop.[42]

Training activity dominated the 1920s and 1930s. The Ninth Corps Area conducted Citizens Military Training Camps (CMTCs) for candidates for commissions in the Officers Reserve Corps. Exercises involved training in infantry, field artillery, coast artillery, cavalry, engineering, and signal. In 1933 the Army established a West Point Preparatory School at Fort Winfield Scott. The school prepared promising enlisted men for the West Point entrance examinations. The School for Bakers and Cooks continued to turn out high quality personnel. In 1937 the 30th Infantry participated with the U.S. Marine Corps in amphibious landings on San Clemente Island. Fourth Army headquarters held a command post exercise at the Presidio in 1939. Approximately 700 officers attended.[43]

Gen. Douglas MacArthur served as the U.S. Army's chief of staff from 1930 to 1935. During that time he directed the further reorganization of the combat forces. In August 1932 the War Department established four field armies, without fixed boundaries, to provide tactical commands that had been lacking under the corps area organization. Under these headquarters, Regular and National Guard divisions and other units trained together in summer maneuvers and other exercises, including joint exercises with the U.S. Navy. Fourth Army headquarters, organized in Omaha, Nebraska, under Maj. Gen. Johnson Hagood, had as its mission responsibilities for the western states. On paper it commanded four army corps containing 11 infantry divisions (Regular Army, National Guard, and Organized Reserve) and four cavalry divisions (Regular Army and National Guard). In June 1936 the headquarters of Fourth Army moved to the Presidio of San Francisco where Maj. Gen. George S. Simonds took command of both it and the Ninth Corps Area.

Simonds, a long-time friend of Douglas MacArthur, received a rousing reception on his arrival at San Francisco in 1936. Eighteen bombers from Hamilton Field and six Crissy Field aircraft saluted him while he was still aboard the transport *Republic*. A guard of honor and a band attended his disembarking. Simonds walked from the Lombard Street entrance to the main parade while the 30th Infantry lined the Presidio streets. At the parade ground a 13-gun salute was fired, Fort Winfield Scott's band played ruffles and flourishes, and a presentation of the staff followed. Two days later a reception and dance were held at the officers' club.[44]

Capt. Eugene N. Slappey, 30th Infantry, published an article on the Presidio, "Garden Spot of Ninth Corps," in the *United States Army Recruiting News*. Slanted toward potential recruits, the article described the post beginning with its Spanish history. He mistakenly wrote that the Presidio lay within the city limits of San Francisco. The present garrison consisted of "the 30th Infantry (popularly known as `San Francisco's Own'), the 9th Motor Transport Company, the 8th Signal Service Company, the 3d Bakery Company, and several small units of the supply branches. Here, too, is the 9th Corps Area Headquarters, and at Crissy Field, which is a subpost of the Presidio, is the 91st Observation Squadron. Just across the way on a part of the original reservation is Fort Winfield Scott — the station of the 6th Coast Artillery and the 63d Coast Artillery (Antiaircraft)."

For years, coal had supplied heat to the Presidio's buildings. Now, said Slappey, gas was used for cooking and oil furnaces were being installed. Because the 30th continued to be assigned to the 3d Division, he said that the commanding general of the division had recently inspect-

ed the regiment and had declared the brick barracks the finest he had ever seen. Slappey stressed the many sports played year-round: baseball, football, tennis, volleyball, and boxing. Not to be overlooked, the first-class swimming pool in the Army YMCA was a major attraction. Toward the end, he threw in the grabber that half the Presidio spent two months every year on the beautiful grounds of the Hotel Del Monte near Monterey where they trained the Army's civilian components.[45]

A 1924 inspection report gave the Presidio garrison's strength figures for 1923 and 1924. In July 1923 the post's total strength was 864 (61 officers, 7 warrant officers , 1 field clerk, and 795 enlisted men). The highest figure was recorded for March 1924 — 2,404 (189 officers, 47 warrant officers, 26 field clerks, and 2,142 enlisted men.)[46]

Fort Winfield Scott's annual inspection in 1938 disclosed that only three coast artillery batteries manned the post: Headquarters Battery and Batteries A and E, 6th Coast Artillery. The 6th Coast Artillery Band; Company A, 58th Quartermaster Corps; and the West Point Preparatory School completed the complement. Including one other battery stationed at Fort Baker the fort's strength amounted to 35 officers, 2 warrant officers, and 1,031 enlisted men.[47]

Although a few Presidio streets had been named by 1900, at least unofficially, an organized effort to memorialize deceased army men by naming streets for them did not occur until 1924.[48] The first street names selected were those of former commanders of the Presidio, Department of California, Department of the Pacific, Military Division of the Pacific, and Ninth Corps Area. Six exceptions were streets named for Master Sgt. Jedediah F. Chism, who saved General Pershing's son; Master Sgt. Carus Hicks, who organized the Presidio's Little League baseball teams; Ensign Jose Fernandez, Spanish Army; and three soldiers of the Mexican Army: Lieutenant Ignacio Martinez, Cpl. Joaquin Peña, and Captain Francisco Sanchez. By 1954, 34 additional streets had received names and another 61 names were added in 1961. The names of two more enlisted men, a Sergeant Mitchell and a Corporal Zanovitz, both of whom received the Distinguished Service Medal posthumously in World War I, were added later. Today almost 200 streets on the military reservation bear names.[49]

In 1926 the San Francisco Board of Supervisors took up the matter of the Presidio's streets and roads. It passed a resolution that the Clerk of the City forwarded to the Quartermaster General in Washington. The resolution stated that the Presidio's streets "are in a deplorable condition and in contrast to those of the City connecting therewith, and excite unfavorable

comment from the visitors." The Board recommended that the Army and the City cooperate for improvements and an estimate. Washington's response was immediate — it had no money.[50]

A post diary maintained in the 1930s listed a vast array of cannon salutes for visiting generals, admirals, and diplomats. In 1931 the Japanese consul general visited the national cemetery and placed a plaque at the grave of Lt. W. W. Caldwell. Alas, the diary did not say why. In 1934 a High Mass for King Alexander of Yugoslavia was held in the old post chapel [45] that had become the Catholic Chapel of Our Lady.[51]

As a result of the great depression of the 1930s, the U.S. Congress passed an act in 1933 that put jobless, single young men between the ages of 17 and 23 to work in reforestation and reclamation work, each for six months, throughout the nation. Between 1933 and 1938, this Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) had 2.1 million men on its rolls at more than 1,500 camps. The U.S. Army had responsibility for the construction and administration of the camps. On April 5, 1933, Headquarters, Ninth Corps Area, assumed these responsibilities for the CCC camps within its geographical area. The Quartermaster Corps assembled construction materials and supplies at the Presidio for distribution to the camps and constructed warehouses for their protection. So many regular officers and noncommissioned officers were assigned to the program that unit training came to a standstill. Late in 1934, however, reserve officers took over the administration.[52]

As early as World War I the concept of a great bridge spanning the magnificent Golden Gate took hold in some men's minds. Others thought the very idea to be ludicrous. Some military men worried that enemy bombing could destroy such a bridge, bottling up San Francisco Bay. Vested interests who enjoyed a monopoly on Bay Area transportation, such as the railroads that operated the ferry service across the bay, objected to the idea. Many agreed that nowhere had the entrance to a great harbor ever been bridged.

Nevertheless, in January 1923 the "Bridging the Golden Gate Association" formed to seek the support of the State of California, and in May the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District Act became law. Because the military controlled the land on both sides of the Golden Gate (Fort Winfield Scott and Fort Baker), War Department permission was a prerequisite to proceeding with the project.

The Army's San Francisco District Engineer, Col. Herbert Deakyne, notified Washington in April 1924 that the San Francisco Board of Supervisors had requested such permission and that the services of bridge engineer Joseph B. Strauss had been acquired. He reminded the War Department that in 1917 the chief of engineers had disapproved any bridges in the bay north of Hunters Point. Two weeks later Deakyne received permission to hold a hearing. Following the meeting, he informed Washington that the U.S. Navy had no objections to a bridge, nor had there been any protests from the shipping industry. Adding that automobiles would probably cross at 15 miles per hour, Deakyne recommended approval.

In August a board of officers met at Fort Winfield Scott to review the preliminary plans. It noted that an approach road would probably affect some of the coastal batteries, including two that were still armed (Cranston, two 10-inch guns, and Godfrey, three 12-inch guns). If new batteries were constructed at Forts Barry and Funston, the board would have no objection to the loss of the Scott batteries. At the end of 1924, Secretary of War John W. Weeks issued a provisional permit that granted authority to proceed with planning pending future circumstances.[53]

For the next six weeks, opposition to a bridge dragged the Bridge District through the courts, but the planners prevailed and in December 1928 the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District became incorporated. In 1929 Strauss formed the Advisory Engineering Board to counsel him and he established a field office at Fort Point for his resident engineer's headquarters. Drafting rooms were established in the former quarters of the old masonry fort, and a cafeteria opened in the second tier gun rooms.[54]

Strauss and his advisory board held their first meeting in August 1929 at San Francisco. At that time they decided on a pure suspension bridge. A year later, Secretary of War Patrick J. Hurley appointed a Special Army Board comprised of three high-ranking engineer officers to hold public hearings at San Francisco for a War Department permit to construct. Strauss attended a second hearing at Washington, D.C., and on August 11, 1930, the War Department issued the permit on the conditions that the bridge have a 4,200-foot span and a vertical clearance of 220 feet at mid-span and 210 feet at the towers. Strauss estimated the construction cost at slightly more than $27 million.

Opposition to the bridge continued. Some people became outraged at the very thought. Images of enemy guns, earthquakes, and destruction of the scenery flooded the public mind.

Yet on November 4, 1930, district electors voted to approve the issuance of bonds worth $35 million.[55]

Construction began on January 5, 1933. Several weeks later, at nearby Crissy Field, there occurred a ground-breaking ceremony, "the like of which for pageantry and enthusiastic support of the citizenry had never before been witnessed in the bay region." Building two viaducts at the Presidio (State Highway 1 and U.S. Highway 101) and approach roads in Marin County involved the demolition and reconstruction of military structures at both forts. Generally replacements and improvements were handled as Works Progress Administration (WPA) projects. This work included the construction of artillery fire control stations, a $125,000 Central Reserve Ammunition Magazine, rifle range, machine and other shops, gas stations, drainage and sewage systems, living quarters, and roads, "It was necessary to divert Lincoln Boulevard just south of the Toll Plaza and reconstruct approximately a quarter-mile, depress it, and construct an overpass across it to connect the Presidio approach with the Toll Terminal."[56]

Strauss won the hearts of preservationists when he decided to save the ancient masonry fort at Fort Point that was situated under the bridge construction:

> Old Fort Scott, dating back to the late fifties...and still in a good state of preservation, now nestles between two pylons and beneath the 319-foot steel arch which at this point supports the bridge floor. While the old fort has no military value now, it remains nevertheless a fine example of the mason's art.... In the writer's view it should be preserved and restored as a national monument, and that was the primary reason for the arch.

Construction, nevertheless, did result in the demolition of the fort's counterscarp gallery.[57]

When the south pier was under construction, a large ocean freighter suddenly loomed out of the fog and slid past the work with but a few feet to spare. In February 1937, disaster visited the project when a stripping scaffold fell, carrying with it 12 men and 2,100 feet of safety net. Ten workers died.[58]

Strauss listed the various contractors who worked on the Golden Gate Bridge:

> Main piers. Pacific Bridge Company.
> Anchorages and approach piers. Barrett and Hilp.
> Structural steel, suspension span. Bethlehem Steel Company.

Above: Towers for the Golden Gate Bridge under construction, October 1935. Fort Winfield Scott and the Presidio of San Francisco are on the near shore, Fort Baker on the far shore. *National Archives photograph.*

Below: Presidio of San Francisco (Fort Winfield Scott). Aerial view of construction of the Golden Gate Bridge, noon, May 19, 1936. Note Battery Lancaster and the small shacks southeast of it. *U.S. Army Corps photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Cables, suspension span. John A. Roebling's Sons Company.
Structural steel, bridge approaches. J. H. Pomeroy and Company and Raymond Concrete Pile Company.
Presidio approach road. Eaton and Smith.
Pavement, suspension spans and approaches. Pacific Bridge Company and Barrett and Hilp.
Electrical work. Alta Electric and Mechanical Company, Inc.
Elevators in towers. Otis Elevator Company.
Toll plaza. Barrett and Hilp.
Final paint coat. Pacific Bridge Painting Company.

Some statistics involved in the work included:

Total length of bridge, 8,981 feet
Length of suspended structure, 6,450 feet
Length of main span, 4,200 feet
Length of each side span, 1,125 feet
Width of bridge, 90 feet
Height of towers, 746 feet
Cables: Diameter of cables, 36 1/2 inches
Length of one cable, 7,650 feet
Number of wires in each cable, 27,572
Number of strands in each cable, 61
Total length of wire used, 80,000 miles

In 1937, the Golden Gate Bridge, one of the highest suspension bridges in the world, had been completed.[59]

Two regional highways, constructed in the 1930s, crossed the reservation to provide access to the bridge from San Francisco. From the south, State Highway 1 (Park Presidio Boulevard, a beautiful, landscaped highway linking Golden Gate Park and the Presidio) coursed across the Presidio from near Mountain Lake to meet U.S. Highway 101 (Doyle Drive reaching westward from the city's Lombard Street) where the two, as one, continued on to the Toll Plaza and the Golden Gate Bridge. The two highways also provided an intracity connection between Lombard Street and Park Presidio Boulevard. The only direct access from both 101 and 1 to the Presidio within the reservation was at the viewing area near the Golden Gate Bridge.

Both highways were viaducts in part as they passed through the Presidio. In addition, Park Presidio Boulevard was underground where it ran through the 1,300-foot General Douglas MacArthur tunnel. Doyle Drive, at least in part, visually separated the main Presidio from the

San Francisco Bay front, while Park Presidio Boulevard separated the Presidio from Fort Winfield Scott in part. Both U.S. 101 (Doyle Drive) and State 1 (Park Presidio Boulevard) have been listed as contributing to the National Historic District, Presidio of San Francisco.

The Royal Spanish Coat of Arms of the 17th Century was placed on the wall over the fireplace in the Presidio officers' club ballroom. In 1939 the post quartermaster, Maj. George M. Chandler, noting discrepancies in the painting, prepared a thorough description of the coat of arms and the Spanish crown. Apparently this document became mislaid for Chandler, now writing from retirement, again informed the Presidio of the errors. He said that the shield and the crown were incorrectly delineated and elements in the shield were reversed. It was as if one called the great admiral Columbus Christopher. "I don't recall ever having seen an officer shot for wearing medals or sabers on the wrong side, but the rules are clear; and the arms of Spain are Castile and Leon, and not Leon and Castile," he wrote. Giving specific instructions on the proper appearance, he advised the club to repaint the coat of arms. At the same time, Chandler prepared descriptions of the Spanish coat-of-arms on the four ancient cannon in front of the officers' club that dated from the Spanish period.[60]

Chandler also undertook to relocate four bronze tablets that the Daughters of the American Revolution had placed to mark the four corners of the Spanish presidio. He asked the Daughters for their cooperation and acquiescence for the proposed changes:

> Tablet 1. To be removed from its concrete setting on the ground in front of the Officers' Club and placed on the wall of the club building.
>
> Tablet 2. To change the word "south" to "north" so as to read: "This tablet marks the north west corner," and reset the tablet 200 feet to the north of its present position at the actual northwest corner of the old presidio." He added, "The actual south west corner of the old wall has been located as within the west patio of the club."
>
> Tablet 3. Change letter "N.W." to "S.W." so as to read, "S.W. corner original presidio" and reset in brick pavement in the west patio of the Officers' Club, at the actual southwest corner of the old presidio.
>
> Tablet 4. No change in the lettering, but reset the tablet some 400 feet to the south of its present location to the true location of the southeast corner. The southeast corner of

Post Exchange, 558. Circa 1930s view to the southeast. Note the streetcar at far left and the military policeman. This building was constructed in 1920. North and west elevations. *National Park Service.*

> the original presidio falls within the old small wood-frame chapel. This corner is marked in the floor of the chapel.

Chandler asked if the Daughters knew the firm that had made the tablets, adding that he was a member of the Sons of the American Revolution and of the American Historical Society.[61] Following World War I, the Army carried out only a modest amount of new construction at the Presidio and Fort Winfield Scott. At the same time it began the removal of the more decrepit structures in the cantonments.

Improvements in communications brought about a new telephone exchange building [67] in 1919 and a radio receiving station [312] in 1921. Near the terminus of the streetcar line in the West Cantonment area a branch of the post exchange was erected in 1920. In addition to the sale of sundries, it operated a grill. Later the building served as a headquarters for the Military Police. In 1993 Letterman Hospital housed medical services in it.[62]

Other small structures erected after the war included a water pump house [315] for the golf course on the southern boundary in 1921; a chemical storehouse [670] partially protected by

an earthen berm in the vicinity of the 1914 stables, also in 1921; two one-story buildings (barracks [681]) and day room [683] adjacent to the 1902 coast artillery barracks [682] on the eastern boundary of Fort Winfield Scott; and a guardhouse [988] at the entrance to the submarine mine depot in the Lower Presidio, these three in 1923.

The engineers erected a corrugated iron warehouse (former building 283, demolished in June 1996) on the site of the fair's Oregon Building at the eastern boundary in 1924. Before long, this building and wooden buildings in East Cantonment raised the ire of the citizens' Marina District Improvement Association. In a 1926 letter to Congresswoman Florence Prag Kahn the association characterized these buildings as detracting from the district's natural beauty and unsafe as well as a fire menace. The engineers replied that the warehouse, less than two years old, was a neat, well-painted structure. They proposed building a fence to conceal it from the city and suggested that the citizens plant a row of ornamental trees along the fence. As for the cantonment, the Army responded that it would eventually be torn down.[63]

During the 1920s and early 1930s the Army concentrated on demolishing nearly all the temporary structures in the West Cantonment, some dating back to the Spanish-American War. The old company kitchens and bathhouses were the first to go. In 1930 the Presidio post commander had a survey made of the post's quarters:

Officers' quarters (permanent):

23 sets, married officers, main post,
1 bachelor officers' quarters, main post
31 sets, married, Infantry Terrace
20 sets, married, East Terrace
41 sets, married, East Cantonment

Warrant officers and noncommissioned officers:

25, bachelor warrants, West Cantonment
8 sets, married noncommissioned officers, East Cantonment
18 sets, married noncommissioned officers, Lovers Lane
48 sets, married noncommissioned officers, West Cantonment
9 sets, married noncommissioned officers, main post
11 bachelor noncommissioned officers, main post

Above: General view of the eastern part of the reservation, February 1926. *National Archives photograph.*

Below: The Presidio of San Francisco, October 14, 1935. The World War I North Cantonment has been entirely removed. *National Archives photograph.*

Above: Noncommissioned officers' duplex quarters built in 1932 and 1939. Located in the 700 area, in the southeast portion of the reservation. *Erwin Thompson, 1990.*

Below: Three duplex noncommissioned officers' quarters, 127, 128, and 129, on Riley Avenue, Main Post. Completed 1931. View toward the north. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1991.*

Nearly all of the noncommissioned officers' quarters in the cantonments were unfit for occupancy.

Barracks:	Brick barracks, main post, capacity — 1,103
	Frame barracks, main post, capacity — 220
	Frame barracks, West Cantonment — 373

By 1935 most of the original West Cantonment buildings had disappeared, some by sale, most through demolition and salvage. On one occasion the 30th Infantry's commander requested permission to destroy the 12 buildings in "Igorrote Village" that had been built by enlisted men out of salvaged material. He said these buildings were unsanitary, rotten, and not fit for animals.[64]

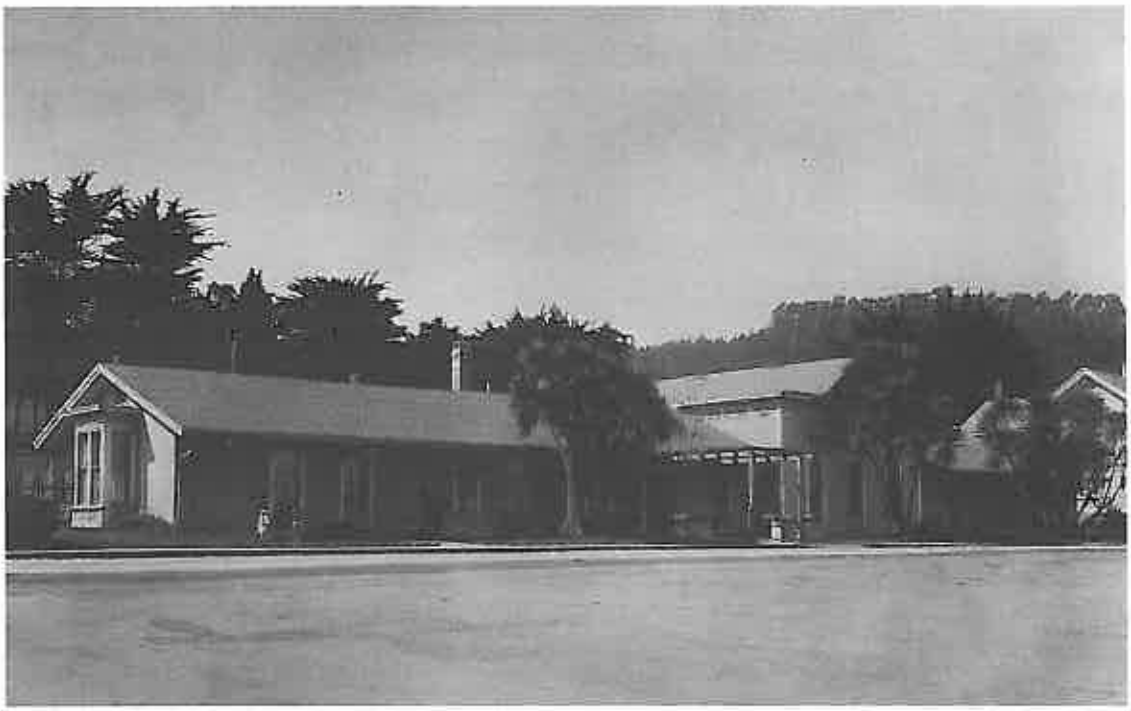
In 1932 the Army replaced older West Cantonment buildings with 15 brick duplexes, each two stories and costing $12,560, for noncommissioned officers.[65] Other construction in the early 1930s included noncommissioned officers' quarters and a new chapel at the main post. Three duplexes [127, 128, and 129] for married noncommissioned officers were completed in 1931. Each brick duplex, two and one-half stories, brick, and Georgian Revival architecture, had two wood-frame sunporches attached.

For many years, Presidio post commanders had urged the construction of either a larger chapel for all the garrison or an additional chapel to complement the Civil War chapel. The Army Appropriations Acts of 1930 and 1931 finally provided the funds for an additional chapel. The new structure, located east of the national cemetery, was dedicated in 1931. The Spanish Colonial Revival building had walls of reinforced concrete decorated with terra cotta ornamentation. An elaborate architrave surrounded the main entrance. A red tile roof covered the two-story-tall, cruciform building. The square bell tower received a bronze bell in 1933. A stained glass window dedicated that same year memorialized the deceased officers and men of the 30th Infantry Regiment. The artist Willemina Ogterop designed the other stained glass windows, which were sponsored or presented by various groups, including the American Legion, Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish-American War Veterans, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Twenty-one colors and standards decorated the main sanctuary.[66]

The new post chapel, 130, dedicated in 1931. It was used for Protestant services. 1940 photograph of east and north elevations. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

Completion of the chapel solved the ancient problems of a lack of capacity and whether the post chapel should have Protestant or Catholic services. Protestant services were assigned to the new building and the old post chapel became the Catholic Chapel of Our Lady.

As early as 1931 the War Department and the Presidio began exchanging correspondence concerning the restoration of the Officers' Club [50]. By 1885 the 160-foot-long original adobe portion had been sliced in two and a wood frame ballroom addition inserted in the middle. Capt. B. L. Meeden, who carried out the reconstruction work in 1933–1934, wrote that the adobe walls were 14 feet high and from 4 1/2 to 5 feet thick; no original roof remained but indentures in the adobe showed where old log rafters had lain (probably from the early army sawmill in Marin); all the window and door openings were original but the U.S. Army had installed the doors and windows. The Army dedicated the restored Presidio Officers' Open Mess on August 17, 1934. A 30th Infantry officer wrote that "the old building...sheltered since 1846 officers of all the branches...the social center of the post at the cross-roads to the Orient, Hawaii, the Philippines, Cuba, Panama and Alaska." He called it "the army's most historical building."[67]



Above: Presidio officers' club, 50, before the 1934 attempt at restoration. The wood frame assembly hall is at the center. Building has a shingled roof. View toward the northwest. *TASC Photograph Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: The eastern portion of the officers' club building, 1930 or 1933. *Collection of Col. Milton B. Halsey, Jr.*

Above: Presidio officers' club, 50, before the 1934 remodeling, with its shingled roof and the Victorian wood frame "assembly hall" addition of 1885. *TASC Photograph Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: The officers' club after the 1934 remodeling. It now has a Spanish tile roof and stuccoed "assembly hall" (later a dining room) with gabled tile-finished roof over the hall. *U.S. Army photograph, Collection of Col. Milton B. Halsey, Jr.*

The reservation boundary walls required attention during these years. Because of the dispute concerning the Rancho Ojo de Agua de Figueroa land claim, the wall along Lyon Street, between Green and Vallejo streets, had not been constructed. In 1932 Congressman Kahn asked the Army to take action because Presidio soil was washing into the street. The construction quartermaster reported that the existing wall along Lyon Street (rock faced random ashlar using Colusa sandstone) had become too costly and he recommended that a simple reinforced concrete wall be constructed, inasmuch as shrubbery would conceal it. After much bickering the wall was built in 1926, the federal government paying $3,670 and citizens contributing $1,600. An inventory of the reservation boundaries on the east and south sides in 1925 showed 11,250 feet of stone walls, 8,850 feet of wire fencing, and 2,700 feet of board fencing.[68]

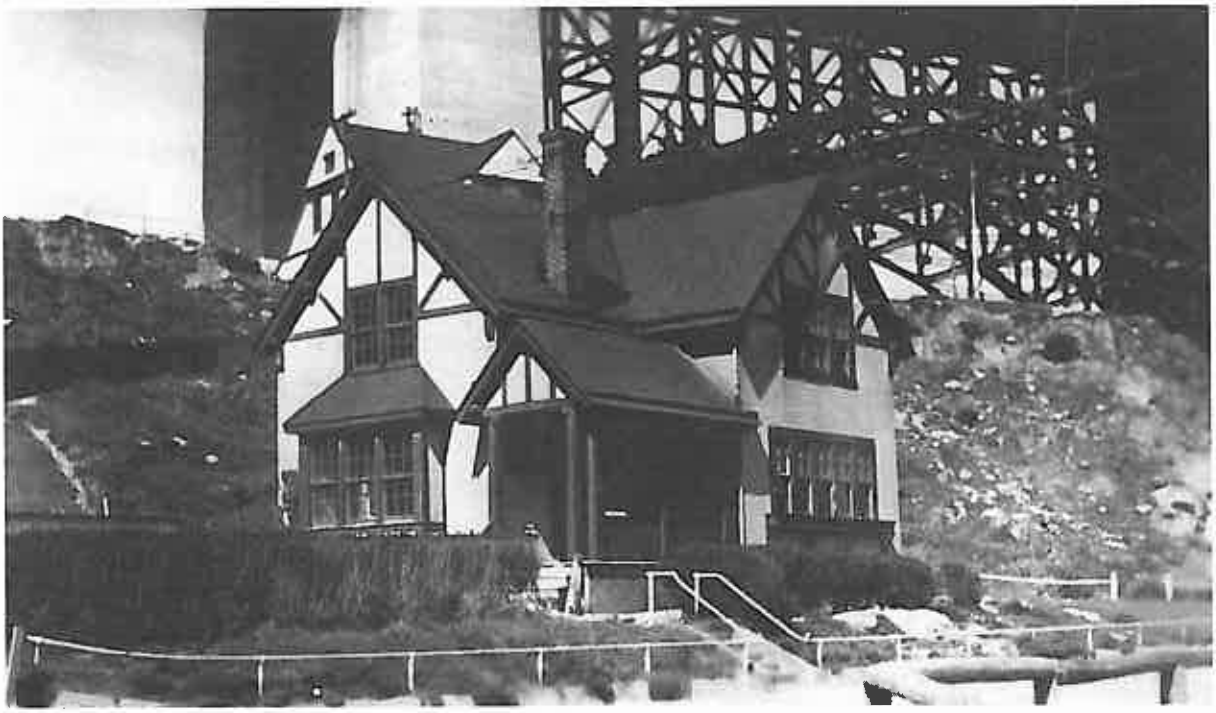
Ninth Corps Area headquarters proposed in 1932 to widen Lincoln Boulevard. The 12-foot-wide pavement that was laid in 1914 was no longer adequate because the road had become a link in one of the main north-south highways in that area. The proposal called for constructing three lanes, each 10 feet wide, and for the elimination of a sharp curve. The quartermaster general replied that funds were not available but Ninth Corps could readjust the barracks and quarters appropriation if necessary.[69]

The bandstand originally located at The Alameda had been moved across the parade ground to a site between post headquarters and the commanding officer's quarters in 1907. In 1927, the post commander received permission to move the octagonal structure once again, this time to the children's playground within the horseshoe at Infantry Terrace. It remained there but a short time; the secretary of war approved its demolition in 1935 because of its dangerous condition.[70] In 1934 Maj. Gen. Malin Craig, commanding the Ninth Corps Area, wrote Washington concerning proposed construction at the Presidio. In his letter he mentioned that the quartermaster general was preparing to consolidate the main post's two parade grounds — the original parade between Mesa and Graham streets and the later parade between Anza Avenue and Montgomery Street.[71]

Two other events of note in 1934 involved the closing of the Fort Point light and a new numbering system for the Presidio buildings. Use of the light station was discontinued on September 1, 1934. The Ninth Corps Area acquired the structures, including the three keeper's cottages and the small lighthouse structures, without cost. That fall the quartermaster said that he wanted to make a completely new historical record of all the Presidio's buildings:

Above: U.S. Lighthouse Establishment quarters at Fort Point, completed in 1908. It was transferred to the Harbor Defenses of San Francisco, 1934. View toward the northwest. *U.S. Coast Guard.*

Below: The lighthouse quarters after the transfer. It became quarters for noncommissioned officers' families. Demolished late 1940s. View toward the northwest. *Fort Point Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



Main Post: 100–299
Infantry Terrace: 300–399
East Terrace: 400–499
East Cantonment: 500–699
West Cantonment: 700–899[72]

The Great Depression struck the nation in 1929. It wiped out people's savings and their confidence. By 1932, 11 million working Americans found themselves unemployed. The Democratic Party and Franklin D. Roosevelt swept the national elections that fall. In 1933 the Public Works Administration (PWA) under Harold L. Ickes came into being. While it concentrated on heavy and durable projects such as dams, bridges, irrigation projects, and the like, it had an impact on the Presidio in terms of funds for improvements. Two years later the Works Progress Administration (WPA) under Harry L. Hopkins was established. (The name was changed to Works Projects Administration in 1939.) It complemented the PWA by specializing in light public works such as roads, airports, schools, state guidebooks, etc.

The accumulation of supplies for the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camps at the Lower Presidio caused the construction of some temporary sheds and additions to existing warehouses in 1935 and 1936. A shed for the storage of CCC vehicles, 54 feet by 468 feet, with 26 sets of double doors and a floor of crushed rock, was completed in March 1936 at a cost of $5,251. Painters applied two coats of blue-gray paint to its exterior. A shed, 60 feet by 255 feet and without a floor, also completed in March, held the camps' tent poles. A third structure was an addition to an existing warehouse. This one-story, wood-frame structure, 20 feet by 216 feet, had a 6-inch thick concrete floor and 19 double-hinged doors. Completed in 1935, it cost less than $2,000. It stored Signal Corps supplies destined for the camps. Still another wood-frame storehouse, 74 feet by 134 feet with an 8-foot-wide loading platform next to the railroad, was completed in 1935 at a cost of $8,000. Despite these structures the quartermaster worried at one point that more than 12,000 steel cots were sitting in the rain.[73] (None of these structures are extant.)

The Golden Gate Bridge District constructed three small magazines or "ammo warehouses" [631, 632, and 633] in the Lower Presidio in 1935. The windowless, hollow tile, stuccoed structures probably held small-arms ammunition, flares, etc., for the Presidio and Crissy Field, several of the coastal batteries' magazines in the general area having been destroyed by bridge construction and for a nearby target range. The Presidio acquired a new incinerator in 1936. The 10-ton, forced draft garbage incinerator, housed in a brick building [669] that measured

U. S.. Army General Depot, Quartermaster Section, in the Presidio. These buildings stood between Halleck Street and Letterman General Hospital. Circa 1925 view is southward. Note the railroad spur to the warehouses. The buildings are no longer extant. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

24 feet by 32 feet and cost $17,800, consumed garbage and refuse from the Presidio, Crissy Field, Fort Winfield Scott, Fort Mason, and the army transports docking at Fort Mason.[74]

Little new construction took place in 1937 (only a transformer (former building 616 — no longer extant) for the Golden Gate Bridge District was built), but 1938 brought a flurry of activity. On July 1, work began on a $2.3 million rehabilitation program. The *San Francisco Chronicle* editorialized, "The Chamber of Commerce is well advised in asking the Secretary of War to take counsel with architects familiar with local conditions and traditions before starting the new construction at the Presidio. It would be a pity if its designs were out of keeping with the spirit of the local scene."[75]

On July 1 the quartermaster general advised San Francisco that more than $2 million had been allotted for PWA and WPA construction at the Presidio:

2 barracks, 250-man each	$225,000
(one for quartermaster troops, one for coast artillery)	
Telephone communications	5,000

A quartermaster storehouse in Lower Presidio, 1935. While cavalry horses had gone from the Presidio by then, mules continued to enlist. This hip roof building no longer exists. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

4 noncommissioned officers' quarters	38,870
Bakers and Cooks school and barracks	170,410
Sales commissary and warehouse	77,500
34 noncommissioned officers' quarters	334,560
30 officers' quarters	474,000 [76]
(10 field-grade, 20 company-grade)	

One of the first WPA projects was improvements to the Presidio officers' club [50]: an addition to house a new kitchen, a pantry, and a food preparation room; to enlarge the dining room and raise its ceiling, and a new service road at the rear. Work began in May and was completed in July 1938. A surplus of funds allowed for new lighting fixtures, a patio, and maple flooring in the ballroom. The club could now accommodate 225 officers and up to 450 on special occasions.[77]

In anticipation of new quarters, the construction quartermaster proceeded to remove eight additional buildings from the West Cantonment area and no fewer than 25 from the hitherto untouched East Cantonment. WPA labor undertook the salvage.[78]

Above: The original Presidio parade ground in 1935. The southern portion (nearest camera) was maintained as an oiled parade. The northern half is covered in grass. The flagstaff is still south of post headquarters (once the division headquarters and before that a Civil War barracks). Ninth Corps Area headquarters, 35, is on the right. View toward the north. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

Below: Formation of troops, most likely men from the 30th Infantry Regiment, on the new parade ground, 94, in 1936. View toward the west. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

One structure that may have been completed in 1938 was a concrete flammable storage structure [990] adjacent to the submarine mine wharf. Some buildings records give 1938 as the completion date for this structure, while others give September 8, 1948 as the date.[79]

During the 1920s and 1930s the Army built a multitude of automobile garages at the Presidio. In 1939 many more were constructed — two-, three-, and four-vehicle garages at Infantry Terrace [375–383]; three- and four-vehicle garages at East Terrace [552–557]; and four-, five-, and six-vehicle garages at the new quarters in West Cantonment [734–737 and 761–763]. A water pump [316] was installed near Mountain Lake, and a tennis court [384] at Infantry Terrace took the place of the former children's playground and a bandstand. A small storage structure [671] sprang up in the stables area.

A major WPA undertaking at the main post was the 1938–1939 construction of the War Department theater [99]. Golden Gate Park provided a wide variety of plants, shrubs, and trees for landscaping the grounds. The reinforced concrete theater building measured 72 feet by 166 feet and it had a tile roof. Funds ran out before completion but an infusion of an additional $21,600 from the WPA brought the building to an opening date of July 30, the total cost amounting to $171,000. That day four free performances entertained the troops:

1 P.M. — for children of all local army posts and their families
3 P.M. — for Fort Scott and Fort Mason personnel and families and Presidio enlisted men and their families
6 P.M. — for Letterman General Hospital and Presidio enlisted men and their families
8 P.M. — for officers and families of all posts and 30th Infantry noncommissioned officers and families

The program on opening day provided a musical, "Rollin in Rhythm"; a Mickey Mouse cartoon "Society Dog Show"; and the feature "I'm from Missouri," starring Bob Burns, Gladys George, and Gene Lockhart.[80]

The Army awarded a contract in November 1938 for the construction of a combined school and barracks for the School of Bakers and Cooks. These men had been quartered in many places over the years, including the East Cantonment, the cavalry barracks [35] in 1918, and most recently, at Fort Winfield Scott. A site was selected on the west side of Halleck Street near the post bakery. Following considerable debate, Colusa sandstone was selected for the foun-

The School for Bakers and Cooks (classrooms and barracks), 220, built in 1939. Following World War II this building became post headquarters. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1991.*

dation. Clay tile curtain formed the walls. The handsome structure [220] was completed in November 1939.[81]

The same contract that built the school building also called for a new sales commissary [603] in the Lower Presidio. It too had clay tile curtain and reinforced concrete, and a tile roof, and it stood on steel H-piles 40 feet long. The two-story, 49 1/2-foot by 104 1/2-foot building cost $56,700 and opened for business in 1939.[82]

Completed on Christmas Day 1939, 19 brick duplexes for noncommissioned officers joined the 1932 buildings of similar construction in the West Cantonment area. Other WPA projects started at this time did not reach completion until 1940. These included the two 250-man reinforced concrete barracks [38 and 39] on the main parade in line with and south of the cavalry barracks. Ostensibly constructed to house quartermaster and coast artillery troops, the two barracks, like the cavalry barracks, quickly became offices for the Ninth Corps Area headquarters as the world became restless.[83] Also completed in 1940 were 15 WPA-financed duplex officers' quarters along Simonds Loop [510–514 and 530–539] in the former East

Above: Sixth U.S. Army headquarters, 38, constructed in 1940 as enlisted men's barracks. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, June 1989.*

Below: Duplex officers' quarters 513 A and B under construction on Simonds Loop, circa 1940. View toward the south. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS*

Quarters above mine depot pier near Fort Point. The white building, 992, has been described as civilian quarters that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers transferred to the Presidio. Circa 1940 photograph. Neither structure is extant. They are not believed to be the officers' quarters built in that general area before and during the Civil War. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Cantonment. Field grade officers occupied five of the structures, company officers the other 10. Probably WPA-financed, the Park Presidio Approach Road and Tunnel within the Presidio opened to Golden Gate Bridge traffic on April 21, 1940.

In late 1936 Mrs. W. F. C. Zimmerman, Chairman of History and Landmarks, City and County Federation of Women's Clubs, San Francisco, began a determined campaign to have the original Spanish presidio reconstructed in its entirety. On June 6, her organization forwarded a resolution to the U.S. Congress. She collected photographs and newspaper articles on the PWA/WPA work, gave radio talks, met with Presidio commanders, and wrote to the secretary of war. Finally in December 1937, the War Department wrote her to the effect that while the plan was considered a most worthy enterprise, unfortunately the Presidio required the site for training purposes.[84]

Fort Winfield Scott participated to a lesser degree in new construction in the PWA and WPA programs of the 1930s. An officers' club [1331], erected in 1921, stood in a glade between officers' row and post headquarters. Eleven duplexes for noncommissioned officers were constructed in 1933 on Ruckman Avenue [1275–1277] and on Battery Wagner Road [1289–1298],

Building 992, above mine depot pier near Fort Point. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

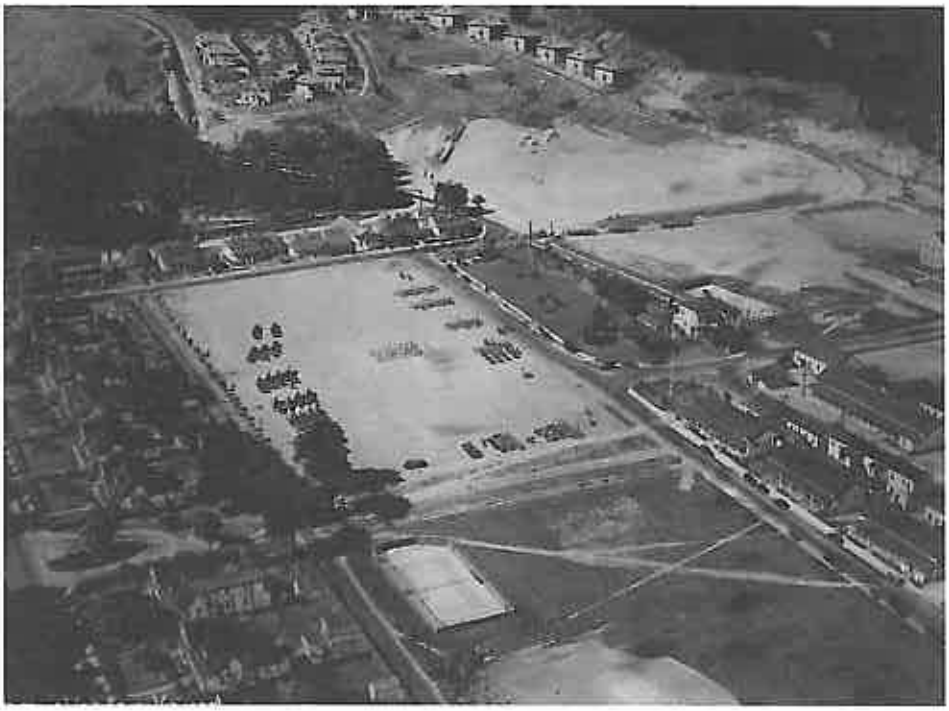
on either side of the disarmed Battery Howe-Wagner. A small storehouse [1233] and a garage [1285] were also built in the vicinity of the battery at the same time. In 1938 an inspector general listed the WPA funds that the fort had received since July 1937: Buildings — $115,600; two (temporary?) barracks — $6,575; roads — $25,000; rehabilitation of roads and trails — $155,217; and a parking area — $6,680. He added that $842,600 in WPA funds had been released recently for the rehabilitation of buildings and grounds at Forts Scott, Miley, and Funston.[85] Another report said that "war time" officers' quarters (perhaps the 1917 Coast Artillery Cantonment) were being torn down; Lincoln Boulevard was being widened from 10 to 22 feet and sharp curves eliminated. Other roads at the post also were widened and paved with emulsified asphalt.[86]

A rustic, wood-frame, log and stone noncommissioned officers' club [1299] opened its doors at Fort Winfield Scott in 1937. WPA funds were not involved in its construction. Fire destroyed the structure in 1942, but it was quickly rebuilt. The walls again consisted of uncoursed stone and logs.[87] Tree trunks served as columns in the interior. Later it served for a short time as an enlisted men's club, then in the 1970s as an officers' club. A youth center occupied it in 1981 but by 1990 it stood abandoned. In 1939 the commanding officer's quar-

Fort Winfield Scott flagstaff and barracks, 1936. From left to right: buildings 1216, 1217 and 1218. View toward the east. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

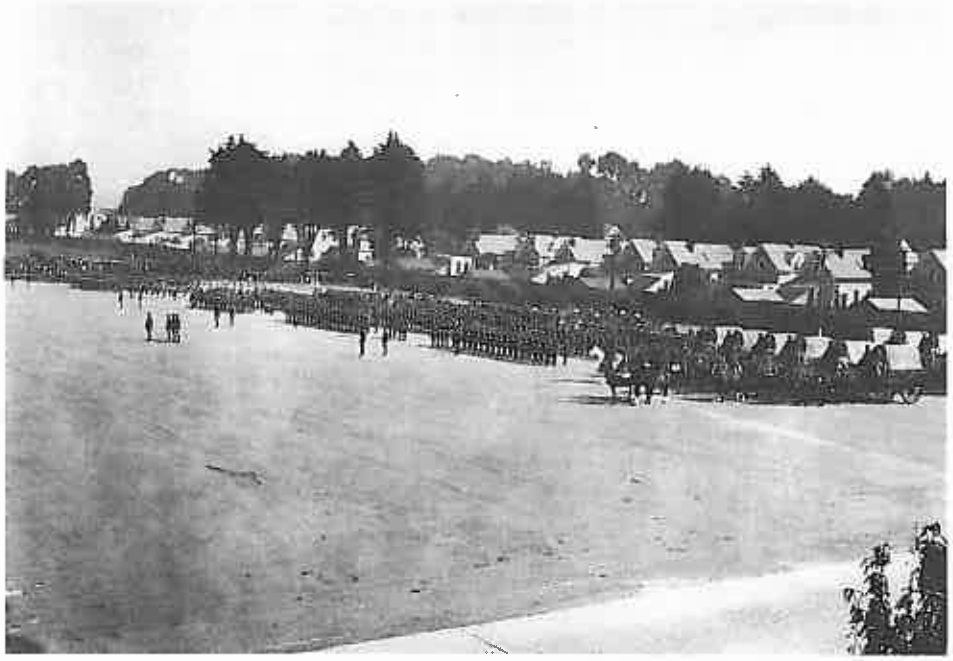
ters acquired a garage [1341], and in the coastal batteries' industrial area a searchlight repair shop [1353] was erected.

By 1941 the Great Depression was a thing of the past. America no longer was a land of men looking for work but of jobs looking for men. Unemployment vanished rapidly and the Works Projects Administration closed its doors. The two decades since World War I had seen considerable improvements on the Presidio military reservation. While the Coast Artillery at Fort Winfield Scott played a reduced role in the harbor defenses, that was about to change with the full activation of the 6th Coast Artillery. At the Presidio the 30th Infantry Regiment had enjoyed two decades of rigorous training as well as the delights of the city. Now war clouds, still on the horizon, moved slowly closer.



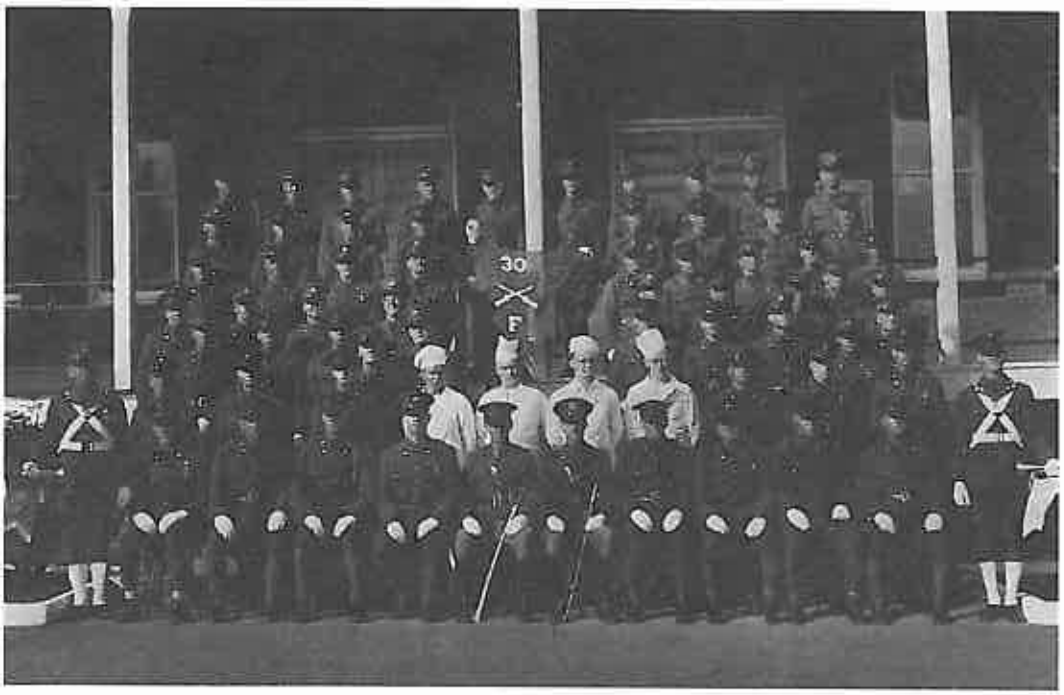
Above: The 30th Infantry Regiment marching onto the old parade ground on May 5, 1925. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: The 30th Infantry with escort wagons on parade. Officers' row is in the background. View toward the northeast. Photograph 1920s, possibly the same date as the previous photograph. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



Above: 30th Infantry Service Company, undergoing full field inspection by Maj. Gen. Ralph Van Deman, May 8, 1929. *Sixth Army Audio-visual Office, Presidio of San Francisco.*

Below: Mounting the guard, a daily ceremony at the Presidio, October 15, 1923, in front of the brick guardhouse, 210. Band barracks, 106, is in the background. View toward the northwest. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



Above: Company F, 30th Infantry, posed on the front steps of their brick barracks on Montgomery Street, circa 1930. This company was a part of the regiment known as "San Francisco's Own." *U.S. Army photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: A company of the 30th Infantry near the northern end of the old parade ground on April 9, 1931. Building 87 on the left already has its upstairs porch enclosed (possibly in 1917?). Building 36 is at right. View to the north. *U.S. Army photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Above: Field artillery limbers and caissons (probably limbers and guns farther back) marching along old Mason Street, probably to the port of embarkation for maneuvers, circa 1931. *U.S. Army photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: A column of army escort wagons moving eastward along old Mason Street, possibly en route to the 30th Infantry maneuvers, circa 1931. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Above: Troops of the 30th Infantry practicing landing from small boats at Crissy Field, 1931, prior to maneuvers in Hawaii. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

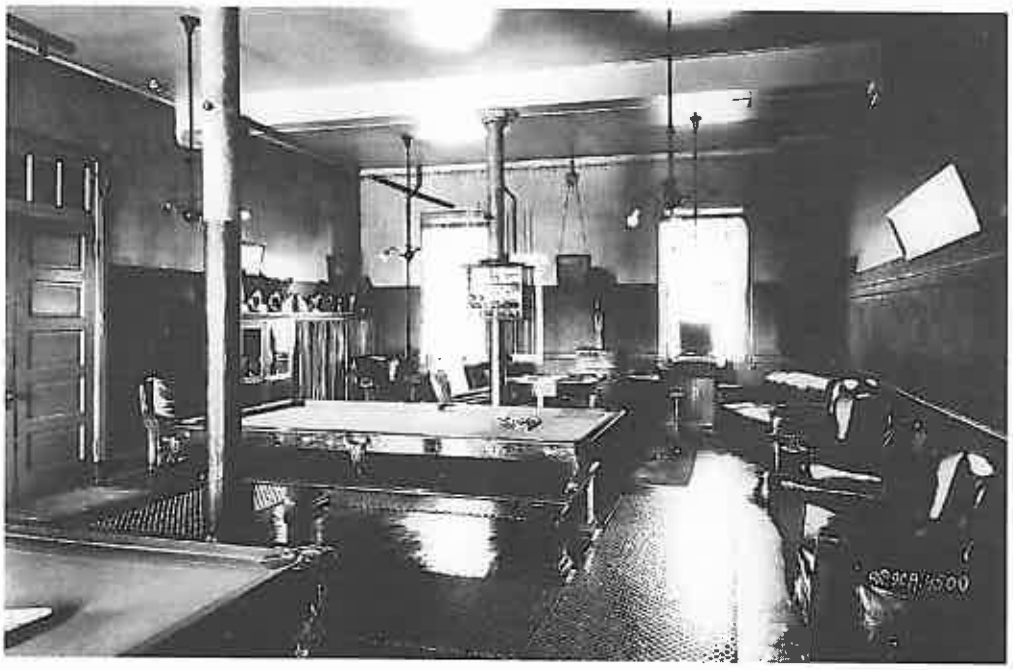
Below: Another view of the practice landing. Naval personnel operate the boats. U.S. Coast Guard life saving station is in the background. Several joint Army and Navy exercises were held in 1931-1932. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

Above: 30th Infantry field exercise digging a trench near the southwest corner of the post, April 9, 1931. A balloon hanger is seen in the distance. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: A field kitchen set up in one of the Presidio's tree plantations during an army field exercise, probably during the 1930s and involving the 30th Infantry. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Above: Interior of barracks, circa 1930. Believed to be the squad room of the Service Company, 30th Infantry, in one of the brick barracks on Montgomery Street. Note the foot lockers on stands, iron bunks with Quartermaster Department insignia at the head, wall lockers, and iron columns. The barracks number is unknown. *U.S. Army photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: Interior of a day room in one of the brick barracks, circa 1931. Both this and the previous photograph were published by the Army's recruiting publicity bureau in a booklet on the Ninth Corps Area, 10,000 of which were printed on October 21, 1931. *U.S. Army photograph, Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



Above: The old cavalry barracks, 86, circa 1940. The building became two stories in 1886. The once-open upstairs porch has been closed in. South and east elevations. *Quartermaster Building Record Books, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: Duplex noncommissioned officers' quarters 1275, 1276, and 1277, built in 1933 at Fort Winfield Scott. View toward the east. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

Above: Duplex noncommissioned officers' quarters, 1261, 1262, 1265, and 1268 on Ruckman Avenue, Fort Winfield Scott. View toward the south. Constructed 1909. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1992.*

Below: A number of noncommissioned officers' quarters were constructed at Fort Winfield Scott between 1909 and 1933. This building, 1270, constructed in 1921, and the above illustration, show the variation in architecture. North and west elevations. Quarters 1266 is to the right. The two buildings originally housed Crissy Field NCOs. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1992.*

Inspection of a company of the 30th Infantry Regiment on the new parade ground in front of the Montgomery Street barracks, circa 1930. Shoulder patches (three diagonal white bars separated by blue bars within a rectangle), identify the Third Division, the 30th's parent organization. The Third Division gained its motto, "the Rock of the Marne" River in France during World War I, when it blunted German attacks in the Champagne-Marne Campaign, July 15-18, 1918. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

View of the 30th Infantry Regiment marching on Montgomery Street with backpacks, circa 1931. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Chapter 18 Notes:

1. The 24th Infantry soon transferred to the Mexican border where it joined the Punitive Expedition into Mexico. William G. Muller, *The Twenty-Fourth Infantry, Past and Present* (Fort Collins, Colorado: Old Army Press, 1972).

2. PSF, Report of Sick and Wounded and Sanitary Report, January 1915 to December 1917; PSF, General Orders 3, April 12, 1917, RG 393, NA.

3. PSF, Post Returns, July 1916. At that time General Pershing commanded the Punitive Expedition while General Funston commanded the Southern Department. When Funston unexpectedly died in February 1917, Pershing succeeded him as department commander. Frederick Funston, "the Little General," was buried at the San Francisco National Cemetery. A severe storm marked the day. *San Francisco Chronicle*, February 25, 1917.

Francisco Villa, born in 1878, described as a cattle thief and wanted for murder, sided with the revolutionaries in Chihuahua State as early as 1910. In 1911 the border city Cuidad Jaurez fell to him and his allies. Excellent in business, he soon controlled casinos, hotels, and owned a hacienda. At one time President Wilson considered backing him when he promised guarantees to American investors. But when the United States supported a rival in Mexican politics, Villa went after American citizens, killing mine employees, then invading New Mexico. Pershing failed to capture him in 1916. Villa eventually retired to a ranch where assassins shot him to death. See Ramon Eduardo Ruiz, *Triumphs and Tragedy, A History of the Mexican People* (New York: W. W. Norton, 1992), pp. 314, 328–334, and 344; Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, pp. 355–356.

4. Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 367; Dupuy, *Compact History*, p. 220; Lerwill, *Personnel Replacement*, pp. 166–167 and 198. Although the term "National Guard" had been in common usage for some time, the 1916 act made it official.

5. Apparently, the mobilization of the 2nd and 5th Provisional Infantry Brigades of the California National Guard began on April 5. Whether these outfits came to the Presidio temporarily remains unknown. *San Francisco Chronicle*, April 10, 1917; Anon., "World War I 1917–1918," PAM files.

6. *The Star Presidian*, July 28, 1961; War Department, *Annual Report, 1918*, 1:1309, and *1919*, vol. 1, part 4, p. 4174. The War Department stated the Presidio's camp capacity to be 3,923 in 1918. The construction contractor for North Cantonment was G. M. Gest, New York City. Risch, *Quartermaster Support*, p. 607.

7. Dupuy, *Compact History*, p. 224.

8. Stewart and Erwin, p. 85; PSF, Report of Sick and Wounded, May 1917, RG 393, NA; Col. Milton Halsey, communication, October 1992; U.S. *Order of Battle of the United States Land Forces in the World War (1917–19)*, v. 3, part 1, *Tactical Divisions Organized in 1918. Posts, Camps, and Stations* (Washington: Government Printing Office, 1949), pp. 957–958. In 1919 an anonymous book about the Twelfth U.S. Infantry appeared. Obviously compiled by members of the regiment, it contained two pages of photographs taken in and about the Presidio and San Francisco in 1917. The regiment considered the Presidio to be "The Home of the Twelfth," describing it as "the most liberally controlled Army post in the United States." Fondly, it wrote, "Although the Presidio offered rides through the hills and hikes along the beaches, if the soldier desired indoor recreation…there were the YMCA buildings and the Red Cross Club Room in the Oregon Building. On Saturday nights, the Brigade Dance was held beneath the lofty rafters of the pine-facaded Oregon Building and many young women would come out from town." *Twelfth U.S. Infantry 1798–1919, Its Story by Its Men* (New York: Knickerbocker, 1919), pp. 66–67.

9. Anon., "World War I, 1917–1918," PAM; Kinnaird, *History of the Golden Gate*, p. 341; *The Star Presidian*, July 28, 1961.

10. Thompson, *Seacoast Fortifications*, pp. 262–263 and 277; Kinnaird, *History of the Golden Gate*, p. 343.

11. All traces of the barracks and school had disappeared by 1928. The officers' quarters, still standing in 1933, were removed during construction of the Golden Gate Bridge. Completion Report, Painting and Repairing Temporary Quarters for Balloon Company, Construction Division Completion Reports 1917–1919, Coast Defense of San Francisco, OQMG, RG 92, NA. Balloon companies were not assigned to San Francisco until 1920.

12. Lerwill, *Personnel Replacement*, p. 198; Memorandum, ROTC Camp, 1918; General Orders, ROTC Camp 1918, RG 393, NA. Graduates from the Students Army Training Corps Camp were authorized, if over 21, to apply for

appointments as second lieutenants, Infantry, in the National Army. By October 1918 the University of California at Berkeley had begun "Section B," Students' Army Training Corps, on the campus. PSF, Special Orders, 1918, RG 393, NA.

13. *Order of Battle.* The U.S. Guards, National Army, guarded industrial facilities throughout the Bay Area including such firms as the Bethlehem Steel Company, Rolf Shipbuilding Company, etc. PSF, Special Orders 160, July 19, 1918, RG 393, NA.

14. Photo of Oregon Building, QMC Form 117, PSF Building Forms, OCE, RG 77, NA; Adjutant general, U.S. Army, December 3, 1915, and accompanying correspondence, GCGF, 1922–1925, OQMG, RG 92, NA; PSF, General Orders 22, March 27, 1918, RG 393, NA.

15. Secretary of war, January 28, 1930; Stewart and Erwin, p. 67. For a time in the 1920s the Army allowed the University of California use of the palace.

16. PSF, General Orders 9, October 16, 1917; 5, January 10, 1918; and 28, April 25, 1918; Special Orders 249, October 26, 1918, RG 393, NA; *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 7, 1918.

17. PSF, General Orders 11, November 12, 1917; 6, January 10, 1918; 66, October 14, 1918; and 72, October 22, 1918, RG 393, NA. The quarantine and the requirement to wear gauze masks were revoked in November.

18. PSF, General Orders 58, September 10, 1918.

19. Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 405; PSF, General Orders 7, January 25, 1919, RG 393, NA; Kinnaird, *History of the Golden Gate*, p. 346; *The Army Almanac*, pp. 679–680.

20. Benson Bobrick, *East of the Sun, The Epic Conquest and Tragic History of Siberia* (New York: Poseidon, 1992), pp. 350–355 and 372–374; G. Nye Steiger, *A History of the Far East* (Boston: Ginn and Company, 1944), pp. 718–724. The Trans-Siberian Railroad, built in sections between 1891 and 1905, eventually reached a length of 5,500 miles, making it the longest railroad in the world.

21. Bobrick, *East of the Sun*, pp. 40 and 391; Steiger, *Far East*, p. 775. The Cossacks, who were to be involved with future events in Siberia, were independent frontiersmen who made their living in the fringes of the Russian empire.

22. Steiger, *Far East*, pp. 777–779.

23. *Ibid.*, p. 779. The Dominion of Canada contributed 4,000 men as part of the British force.

24. *Order of Battle of United States Land Forces*, p. 958; J. T. Knight, September 12, 1923, to adjutant general, War Department , GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA; William F. Strobridge, *Golden Gate to Golden Horn, Camp Fremont, California and the American Expedition to Siberia of 1918* (San Mateo: San Mateo County Historical Association). Strobridge states that Camp Fremont was located on 25,000 acres of leased land. Knight gave the figure 7,200 acres. Graves had served in California in 1906 relief work.

25. The Philippine Department also sent a field hospital, an ambulance company, and a company from a telegraph battalion. Their experience in Siberia resulted in these regiments being given the appellations of Wolfhounds (27th) and Polar Bears (31st).

26. William S. Graves, *America's Siberian Adventure, 1918–1920* (New York: Peter Smith, 1941), pp. 2, 34, 36; Lawrence Packard, "An Account of the American Expeditionary Forces in Siberia, August 1918 to March 1919" (Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford University), pp. 4–5. Graves' troops from the United States included the 5,000 infantrymen (presumably including men from the Presidio's 12th and 62d Regiments), Graves' staff from Fort Sam Houston, Evacuation Hospital 17, Base Hospital 93 from Camp Lewis, Medical Supply Depot 7 from San Francisco, two sections of Bakery Company 391 from the PSF, a veterinary field unit, and medical and dental officers.

At the same time about 5,000 American troops under British command landed in the Murmansk-Arkhangelsk region of northern Russian to guard large quantities of war supplies and communications lines. Before withdrawing in June 1919, these troops suffered heavy casualties. See Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 407.

27. Graves, September 14 and 24, 1918, to P. C. March, in General William S. Graves Collection, Hoover Institution Archives, Stanford.

28. Weed, *Medical Department*, vol. 13, pt. 2, *The Army Nurse Corps*, pp. 297–298.

29. Colonel Eichelberger later served as the Presidio's commanding officer.

30. Graves, *Siberian Adventure*, p. 92. An interesting account by a lone Coast Artillery officer in Siberia, who commanded an infantry company at the Suchan coal mines, is found in *The Coast Artillery Journal* (May 1925) 62:408–415.

31. *San Francisco Examiner*, October 6, 1919.

32. Bobrick, *East of the Sun*, p. 413; Graves, *Siberian Adventure*, pp. vii, 32, 91, and 354. In addition to the sources cited in this section, John Albert White, *The Siberian Intervention* (Princeton: Princeton University Press, 1950) was most helpful. White made a strong case for Japan wanting to acquire Siberia and the United States' determination to prevent that acquisition. Japanese forces left Siberia in the fall of 1922. Soviet troops entered Vladivostok on October 25. Siberia became a part of the Soviet Union.

33. Weigley, *History of the United States Army*, 402.

34. PSF, Special Orders 1, January 2, 1919, RG 393, NA.

35. PSF, General Orders 39, May 24, 1919; Special Orders 286, December 8, 1918; and 126, May 2, 1919, RG 393, NA; *Star-Presidian*, October 29, 1954.

36. *The Listening Post* (Letterman, December 27, 1919); *San Francisco Chronicle*, January 26, 1920. General Liggett, who had served under Pershing in France, was absent on official duty when Pershing visited his residence. Pershing again visited the Presidio in April 1923.

37. *San Francisco Chronicle*, July 23, 1920; PSF, Fire Protection 1924, OCE, RG 77, NA.

38. Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, pp. 407–408; Lerwill, *Personnel Replacement*, p. 230. After San Francisco had recovered from the San Francisco 1906 Earthquake, army headquarters moved from the Presidio back to the city, in the Chronicle Building. By 1920 it occupied the Santa Fe Building. The date of that move has not been determined. WPA, "The Army at the Golden Gate," p. 58.

39. PSF, "From Records Stored in Basement, Ninth Corps Area Headquarters (and Post Library)," 1939.

40. PSF, Post Returns, 1901–1916; *Star Presidian*, February 8, 1963; Col. Milton Halsey, communication with writer, 1993; Stewart and Erwin, pp. 66 and 70; Jean Fuller, PSF, January 11, 1974, to PSF Athletic Director, concerning American Revolution Bicentennial, Presidio Army Museum. Fuller suggested a renewal of the race. A 30th Infantry flag remains on display at San Francisco City Hall where it is practically buried by the flag of the 363d Infantry, 91st Division, also "San Francisco's Own."

41. Anon., PSF, November 10, 1922, to Dear Sir, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

42. John F. Shortal, *Forged by Fire, General Robert L. Eichelberger and the Pacific War* (University of South Carolina Press), pp. 23–25; Albert E. Davis, *Historical Monuments*, PSF, 1959.

Eichelberger graduated from West Point in 1909. In 1919 he served on General Graves' staff in Siberia. In the 1920s he had assignments in the Philippines and China. Serving as superintendent of West Point from 1940 to 1942, he took command of the 77th Infantry Division. Assigned to the South Pacific under Gen. Douglas MacArthur, he fought on the Papua peninsula, New Guinea. In 1942 he commanded the XI Corps, then the I Corps, in New Guinea and New Britain. In 1944 as commander of the Eighth Army he led his troops in the liberation of Leyte and Luzon in the Philippines. One of the first officers to occupy Japan, he remained with the Eighth Army until his retirement in 1948. Promoted to the rank of general, retired (four stars), in 1954, Eichelberger died in 1961. *Webster's Military Biographies.*

43. Stewart and Erwin, p. 70; NPS, *Presidio of San Francisco, A Collection*, p. 112; Ganoe, *United States Army*, p. 515.

44. Jack B. Beardwood, *History of the Fourth Army*, U.S. Army Ground Forces Study 18 (Historical Section, Army Ground Forces, 1946), pp. 1–2; Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 415; Lerwill, *Personnel Replacement*, p. 230; *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 21, 1936. Simonds concluded his army career at San Francisco, retiring in 1938.

45. E. N. Slappey, "Typical Army Posts of Today," *United States Army Recruiting News* (n.d.), pp. 4–5 and 15.

46. J. L. Shepard, July 1, 1924, Annual Sanitary Report, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

47. J. M. Graham, June 13, 1938, to Ninth Corps Area, GCGF 1935–1945, OQMG, RG 92, NA; Anon., *Harbor Defenses of San Francisco* (Little Rock: Parke-Harper, 1938). The 6th Coast Artillery Regiment had been constituted and partly organized at Fort Winfield Scott on July 1, 1924. The 1st and 2d Battalions were activated on July 1, 1939, and the 3d Battalion on June 2, 1941, all at Fort Scott. The 4th Battalion was activated June 15, 1941, at Fort Funston. "6th Air Defense Artillery," Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association.

48. A 1900 map showed "McDowell Avenue" for today's Lincoln Boulevard, "Avenue A" for Park Boulevard, and "Avenue B" for Kobbe Avenue.

49. "Working Papers," Cabinet R-1, Master Plans Office, DEH, PSF; *Star Presidian*, August 11, 1961; [NPS], *Presidio National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms (1993)*, pp. 7–194 to 7–197 and 7–217 to 7–219. Another street name came to light when a fire destroyed a noncommissioned officer's quarters in West Cantonment. He lived on Sunshine Alley.

50. J. S. Dunnigan, October 20, 1926, to quartermaster general, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

51. PSF, Post Diary, 1931–1937. King Alexander had been assassinated in France a few days earlier.

52. Lerwill, *Personnel Replacement*, pp. 237–238; Kinnaird, *History of Golden Gate*, pp. 278–279; Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 413. While the U.S. Army had responsibility for construction, supply, and administration of the camps, the Departments of Agriculture and Interior had technical supervision. Only one Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) camp was in the vicinity of San Francisco, and it was located on the tunnel road between Forts Baker and Barry in Marin County. Risch, *Quartermaster Support*, p. 729.

53. H. Deakyne, April 9 and July 10, 1924, to chief of engineers; Board of Officers, Proceedings, August 18, 1924; J. W. Weeks, December 20, 1924, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

54. Joseph B. Strauss, *The Golden Gate Bridge, Report of the Chief Engineer to the Board of Directors of the Golden Gate Bridge and Highway District, California* (San Francisco, 1938; reprint 1970), pp. 26–35; John A. Martini, *Fort Point, Sentry at the Golden Gate* (n.p., Golden Gate National Park Association, 1991), p. 34.

55. Strauss, *Report*, pp. 37–42.

56. *Ibid.*, pp. 49–52.

57. *Ibid.*, p. 62; Martini, *Fort Point*, p. 34. Adobe ruins were uncovered at Fort Point 20 feet below the surface, possibly a remnant of the Spanish-Mexican fortification at the point. From an unidentified newspaper clipping entitled: "Historic Walls Found."

58. Strauss, *Report*, pp. 50 and 52.

59. *Ibid.*, pp. 73–74; NPS, *Creating a Park*, pp. 16–18 and 48–50; NPS, *Presidio, National Register Registration Forms*, pp. 7–53 and 7–195.

60. G. M. Chandler, December 15, 1939, and March 21, 1940, to C. Hudson, filed in Public Relations Branch, PSF.

61. G. M. Chandler, May 22, 1939, to Mrs. John A. Keating, copy at the California State Library, Sacramento. The 1994 study "Archeological Resources From the Spanish and Mexican Periods At the Presidio of San Francisco" by William Hampton Adams will result in further refinement of location the Spanish presidio.

62. In July 1940 the telephone exchange acquired a one-story wing measuring 25 feet by 37 feet. The PX-Grill also acquired an extension, in 1935. Near the radio receiving station two radio towers were erected, also in 1921. They

are no longer extant. Forms 117, U.S. Army Commands 1920–1941, RG 394, NA. When the radio station received a new heating system in 1935, note was made that it received messages from Station WAR, Washington, D.C. and Station WTA in Manila, Philippine Islands.

63. Marina District Improvement Association letter, n.d.; F. P. Kahn, November 1, 1926, to Ninth Corps Area; C. P. Summerall, January 21, 1927, to Kahn, GCGF 1922–1925, OQMG, RG 92, NA. While most buildings in East Cantonment were removed, five remain. Building 283 housed Sixth U.S. Army's Directorate of Engineering and Housing in 1994.

64. The location of the village has not been determined. An Igorrote is a member of any of several related mountain tribes of northern Luzon, Philippines. F. R. Brown, September 13, 1928, and April 22, 1930, to Ninth Corps Area; and removal records, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

65. Completion Report 1934, Construction Division, OQMG, RG 92, NA. Buildings completed February 1932: current buildings 715, 716, 717, 719, 721, 723, 725, 742, 743, 744, 745, 746, 747, 748, and 749.

66. Harrison, Presidio Physical History Report; Milton B. Halsey, Jr., "Point Paper, The Presidio Chapels," (ca. 1990); Eveline O. K. Krimgold, "The Stained Glass Art of Willemina Ogterop," (1977); Folder, "Protestant Chapels," PAM; Completion Report, Construction Division, OQMG, RG 92, NA; Linda Jackowski and Jerry D. Mason, contributors, "Chapels of the Presidio." In 1933 a fresco titled "The Peacetime Activities of the Army," painted by Victor Arnautoff as a WPA project was added to the wall of a covered porch. Arnautoff also painted murals in San Francisco's Coit Tower. In 1973 a granite memorial to army chaplains was added to the chapel grounds where a memorial garden was dedicated in 1975. A dedication of a Vietnam Veterans Memorial was held in 1986.

67. P. W. Guiney, October 28, 1931, to Ninth Corps Area, and H. B. Nurse, March 8, 1932, to quartermaster general, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA; B. L. Meeden, "Army's Finest Club Building — Restoration of the Officers' Club at the Presidio of San Francisco," *The Quartermaster Review* (November–December 1934); D. P. Yeuell, "The Presidio's Officers' Club, The Oldest Adobe Building in San Francisco" (August 1934).

68. A. O. Seaman, May 2, 1923, to Ninth Corps Area; W. R. White, October 12, 1925 to Ninth Corps Area, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

69. H. L. Walthall, May 11, 1932, to adjutant general, WD, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

70. F. C. Bolles, August 11, 1927, to Ninth Corps Area; Secretary of war 1935, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

71. M. Craig, June 1, 1934, to adjutant general, WD, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA. Ever since the Civil War the upper (southern) half of the parade ground between Mesa and Graham streets had been considered the Presidio's parade ground. Its surface had long since been oiled and sanded. (The northern half had been grassed and set aside for sports activities and temporary campgrounds for the National Guard and other groups). The other area adjacent to Montgomery Street had been regarded as company areas after construction of the brick barracks. It also served as an artillery park, a light artillery drill area, guard posting, and an assembly area. The earliest reference to it being considered a parade ground (perhaps for the Coast Artillery) that has been found was dated 1911.

72. E. G. Mitchell, September 14, 1934, to secretary of war; H. J. Weishaar, November 6, 1934, to quartermaster general, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA. Apparently later, buildings in the lower post were numbered 900–999. Folder, files of War Department QMC form 117, OCE, RG 77, NA. Structures in the North Cantonment, Lower Presidio, appear not to have been numbered.

73. Construction quartermaster, Fort Mason, December 11, 1935, and March 25 and May 5, 1936, Completion Reports 1917–1919 [*sic*], OQMG, RG 92, NA.

74. PSF, Completion Reports, OCE, RG 77, NA.

75. *San Francisco Chronicle*, June 25, 1938; PSF, Post Diary 1931–1937, entry July 1, 1938; PSF, Completion Reports, OCE, RG 77, NA.

76. C. D. Hartman, July 1, 1938, to construction quartermaster, San Francisco, District Engineer, General Correspondence 1927–1939, OCE, RG 77, NA. The above sums total $1,650,340. In another letter dated June 24, 1938, Hartman listed the funds as PWA — $1,415,000, and WPA — $661,000, or a total of $2,076,000.

77. J. F. Byrom, May 9, 1939, PSF Completion Report, OCE, RG 77, NA.

78. F. D. Jones, July 6, 1938, to Ninth Corps Area, San Francisco District, General Correspondence 1927–1929, OCE, RG 77, NA. The buildings removed included officers' quarters, servants' quarters, noncommissioned officers' quarters, garages, and a stable of unspecified size.

79. NPS, National Register of Historic Places, p. 7–187; PSF, Real Property Inventory, Department of the Army Form 2877, PSF, DEH.

80. _____, May 18, 1938, to General Seaman; F. D. Jones, May 22, 1939, to B. P. Lamb; District Engineer, General Correspondence 1927–1939, OCE, RG 77, NA.

81. C. Stalsburg, n.d., to commandant, GCGF 1922–1935, OQMG, RG 92, NA; File, School for Bakers and Cooks, District Engineer, General Correspondence 1927–1938, OCE, RG 77, NA. In recent years current building 220 has served as post headquarters.

82. *Ibid*; Stewart and Erwin, p. 66.

83. No evidence has been found that suggests that the Army had this use in mind before construction began. Sixty years had passed since the Army first sought to have a major headquarters building on the Presidio.

84. Zimmerman Papers, "Military Posts, Calif., San Francisco," vertical file, Archives, University of the Pacific, Stockton, CA.

85. J. M. Graham, June 13, 1938, to Ninth Corps Area, GCGF 1935–1945, OQMG, RG 92, NA. It is possible that the elaborate stonework along officers' row on Kobbe Avenue was the result of WPA funding.

86. William Mooser, Jr., "Report on Progress of the Works Program in San Francisco" (typescript, January 1938), items 3462, 3805, and 3806.

87. Uncoursed stone is stone laid irregularly, and not in continuous horizontal joints.

Chapter 19. Crissy Field[1]

In less than half a century, from the first U.S. military airplane developed by the Wright brothers in 1909 to the massive military air operations of World War II, U.S. air power became an essential element in the nation's defenses. For a time within those decades, from 1920 to 1936, Crissy Field contributed to the development of air operations, both military and civilian, in the ways set forth in "The Last Word in Airfields."

During the two decades of peace following World War I, a major development occurred at the Presidio of San Francisco with the establishment of a military airfield, Crissy Field.

Kill Devil Hills, near Kitty Hawk, North Carolina, received little public attention on December 17, 1903, when Orville and Wilbur Wright separately made the first-ever, sustained, and almost-controlled flights on the flying machine *Flyer*. Four years later the U.S. Army established a three-man Aeronautical Division in the Signal Corps (one man soon went AWOL). The Wrights delivered a flying machine to the Army's Fort Myer, Virginia, in December 1907. Demonstration flights had barely got underway in September 1908 when the aircraft crashed, severely injuring Orville Wright and killing Army Lt. Thomas E. Selfridge, Coast Artillery Corps.[2]

The Wrights delivered a second machine to Fort Myer in 1909, but it, too, crashed. Nevertheless, in 1911 the U.S. Congress appropriated $125,000 for military aviation. Among the first entrants to the Wright Flying School at Dayton, Ohio, to qualify as a pilot was a young lieutenant named Henry H. Arnold. About the same time that Arnold won his wings, the Army's chief of staff, Maj. Gen. Leonard Wood, who had been the Presidio's assistant post surgeon in 1890, wrote, "It may be one year, it may be more, but sooner or later the aeroplane will be the greatest factor of the century in the world's affairs."[3]

A few months after Wood made that prophecy, an air show held at Selfridge Field (Tanforan raceway) in South San Francisco demonstrated eloquently the rapid advances being made in flight. Aviator Eugene Ely made history by flying from the field in a Curtiss airplane and successfully landing on a platform on naval cruiser USS *Pennsylvania*, then returning to the field. A Presidio coast artilleryman, Lt. Myron Crissy, also made history when he released two bombs from a Wright biplane when flying at 550 feet. Another Presidio officer, Lt. Paul W.

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

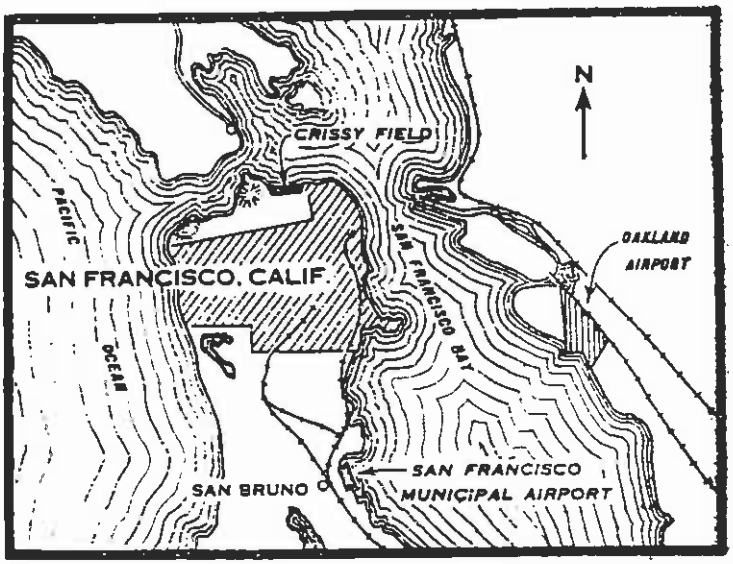
AERONAUTICS BRANCH

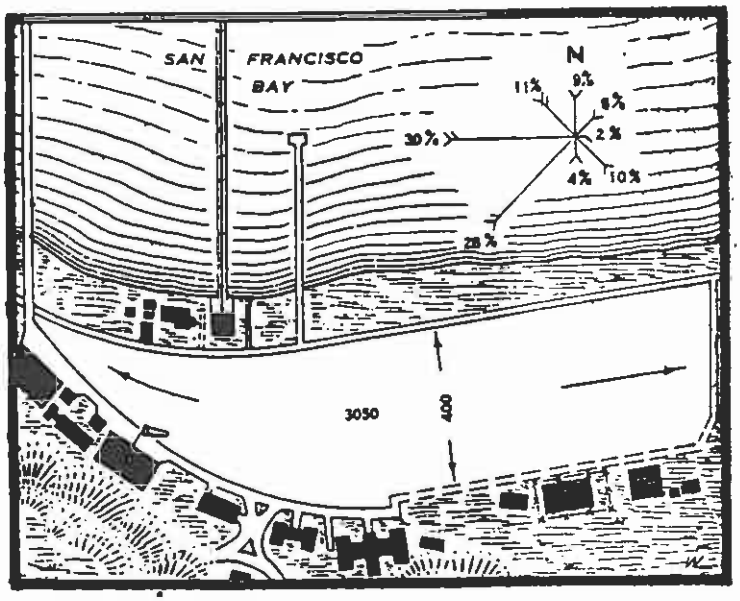
Airway Bulletin

No. 335, Washington, April 25, 1928

CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO

Crissy Field





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Location plan for Crissy Field. *1928* Airway Bulletin *cover*.

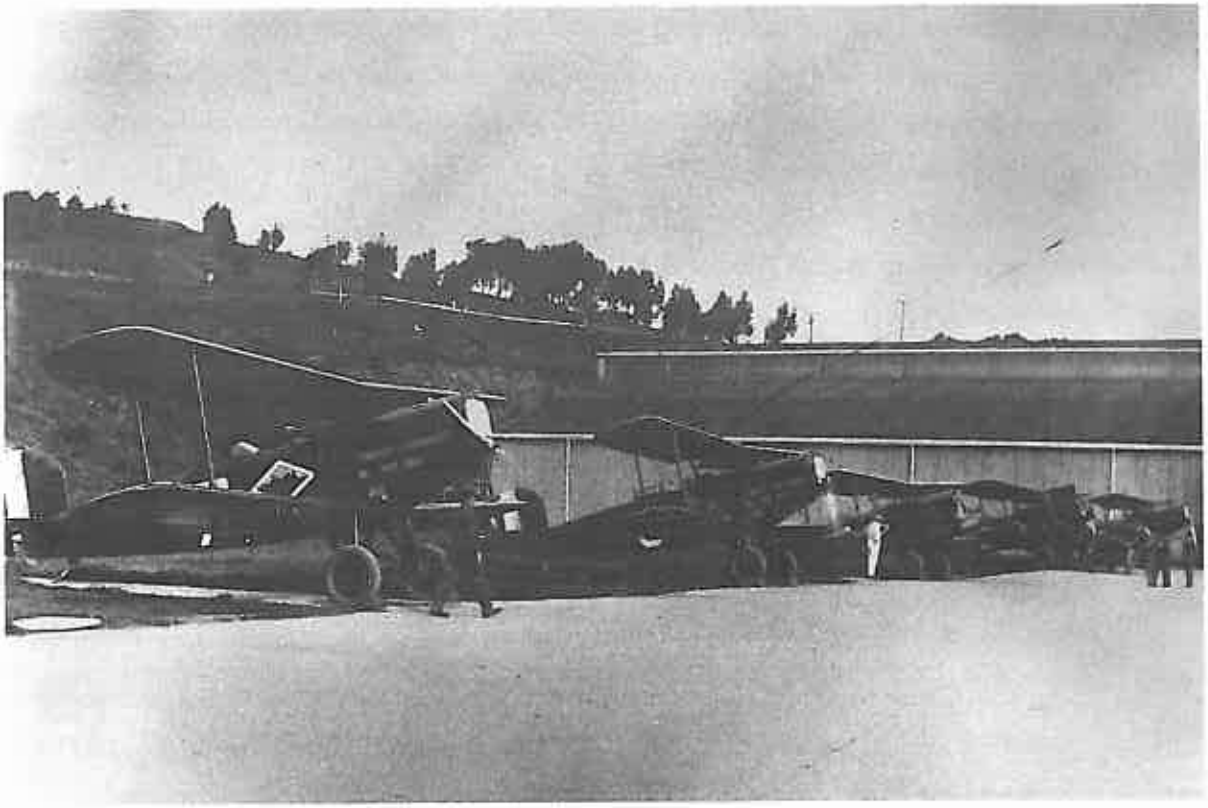
Beck, then on detached service to Glenn Curtiss' flying school at San Diego, successfully sent a wireless message from an aircraft to Selfridge Field two miles away. Brig. Gen. Tasker H. Bliss, commanding the Department of California, attended the air show and declared it "the dawn of a new era in military strategy."[4]

In 1914, just days before World War I began in Europe, the U.S. Congress approved the creation of the Aviation Section in the Signal Corps, setting its strength at 60 officers and 260 other ranks. When the United States declared war on Germany in 1917, the Aviation Section had 131 officers and 1,087 enlisted men, but fewer than 250 airplanes. Wartime growth resulted in the establishment of the U.S. Army Air Service in August 1918. By the end of the war it had a strength of 200,000 personnel; after demobilization, only 10,000 men remained by June 1920. The Army Reorganization Act of 1920 made the Air Service a combatant arm of the U.S. Army, along with the Infantry, Field Artillery, Coast Artillery, and Cavalry.[5]

At San Francisco during the Panama-Pacific International Exposition in 1915, aviation events thrilled spectators and stimulated interest in flying, although it was still considered a dangerous activity. In the Lower Presidio the exposition erected an oval racetrack, the center of which served as an aviation field, and a large spectator grandstand. Daredevil pilots performed trick flying and heart-stopping stunts over San Francisco Bay. The most famous of these daring young men was the native son Lincoln Beachey, the first American to perform the loop-the-loop. On one occasion he flew inside the incomplete Palace of Industry only to crash into the far end wall. (He was not hurt.) Later, he met the same fate as many of his colleagues when he crashed to his death in San Francisco Bay.[6]

In July 1918 while war raged in Europe, the U.S. Congress authorized the construction of eight "air coast defense stations" in the United States with the purpose of cooperating with the Coast Artillery in defending America's harbors, including magnificent San Francisco Bay. Only two stations were completed, one on the Atlantic coast, Miller Field in New York, and one on the Pacific coast, Crissy Field at the Presidio of San Francisco. In the summer of 1919 a board of army officers at San Francisco recommended the west end of the Lower Presidio as the site for the new field. Airplanes were already landing there, including the three aircraft assigned to the Western Department headquarters at the Presidio.[7]

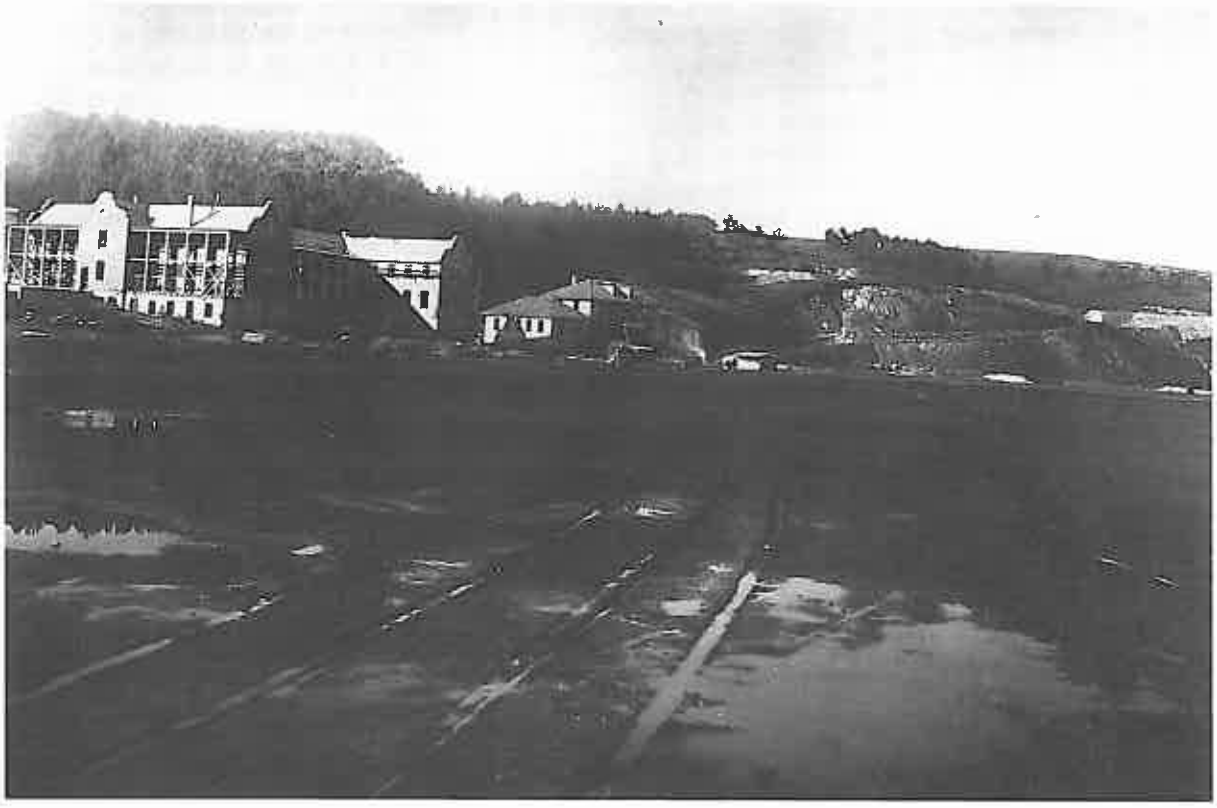
At that time the commander of the Western Department, Lt. Gen. Hunter Liggett, although nearing the end of a lengthy army career, maintained a strong interest in aerial navigation.



Crissy Field. Aircraft of the 91st Observation Squadron lined up adjacent to hangar 926. View toward the west. *San Francisco Public Library.*

Now that he was adding another flying field to his command, he also assigned an air officer to his headquarters staff. Col. Henry H. Arnold, known to all as "Hap," received orders transferring him from Rockwell Field in San Diego to San Francisco's Santa Fe Building where the headquarters staff was housed. He arrived in May 1919.[8]

The Lower Presidio hosted the "First Transcontinental Reliability and Endurance Test" in December 1919 even before the Army began the development of the field. Forty-six aircraft flew from Roosevelt Field, Long Island, across the country toward San Francisco. At the same time 15 planes led by Lt. Lowell H. Smith departed from the Presidio on October 8 headed for New York. The test was not a success. Distance, weather, and malfunctioning all contributed to failure. Only nine men finished the test while nine others died in the attempt. Among those killed was Maj. Dana H. Crissy, the commander of Mather Field, California, another of the Western Department's airfields. Major Crissy had served in the Coast Artillery at the Presidio at the same time as his brother Myron, who had released the bombs at the air show in 1911. Dana had transferred to the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps in 1917. Dana flew a



Left to right, barracks 650 under construction (note two-story verandahs on east and west sides and on the north side between the wings; headquarters building 651, also under construction; and the construction of Crissy Field Avenue leading to the top of the bluff. *U.S. Army photograph, USAF neg. no. 122767AC; National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

DeHavilland DH-4 from the Presidio in the eastbound group. While landing at Salt Lake City the plane stalled, crashed, and killed the pilot and his observer, Sgt. 1st Class V. Thomas.[9]

Crissy died at age 35. The funeral service took place in the Presidio chapel. "Maj. D. H. Crissy, Aviation Corps, who fell to his death at Salt Lake City last Wednesday, while competing in the aerial derby, will be buried with full military honors in the Presidio [National Cemetery] at 2:30 this afternoon [October 14, 1919]. All of the troops will turn out to act as escort." Among the pallbearers was Colonel Arnold. Later, as the airfield took shape, Arnold called it Crissy Field even before it was dedicated. And so it came to be called.[10]

About the time Arnold became department air officer, an old acquaintance, Maj. Carl A. "Tooey" Spaatz, became his assistant at the Santa Fe Building. Characteristic of pilots, Spaatz felt more at ease in the air than sitting behind a desk. He, too, participated in the First Transcontinental Reliability and Endurance Test, flying west to east in December 1919. The

War Department commended him for his achievements in that event. He was the winner on elapsed time; he placed second in the DH-4 class of aircraft; and he placed third in all types of aircraft.[11]

In 1920 the City and County of San Francisco leased land east of the Presidio, an area later known as the Marina, for use as an airfield for the Post Office Department's new Air Mail Service. At the same time the Post Office requested permission to land at the Presidio and to erect temporary facilities there. Although the Army gave permission, an air mail service hangar was not erected until a year or two later.[12]

In September 1920 Flight A, 91st Observation Squadron, Air Service, under the command of Lt. Lowell Smith, arrived at the landing strip in the Lower Presidio on temporary duty. The planes proceeded to spot hits for the coast artillery firing at distant targets in the ocean. At that time the Army reorganized the Western Department as the Ninth Corps Area. General Liggett moved his headquarters from downtown San Francisco to the Presidio's three-story cavalry barracks [35]. Arnold's office was also moved, but he found the new facility to be somewhat overcrowded.[13]

The buildings at the landing field having been completed, the construction quartermaster turned over the facilities at Crissy Field to the U.S. Army Air Service on June 24, 1921. Maj. Gen. William M. Wright, who took command of the Ninth Corps Area on July 1, accompanied by Major Arnold, formally opened the Air Coast Defense Station, Crissy Field.[14]

Most of Crissy Field's buildings, described below, were located at the west end of the field under the bluffs of Fort Point.

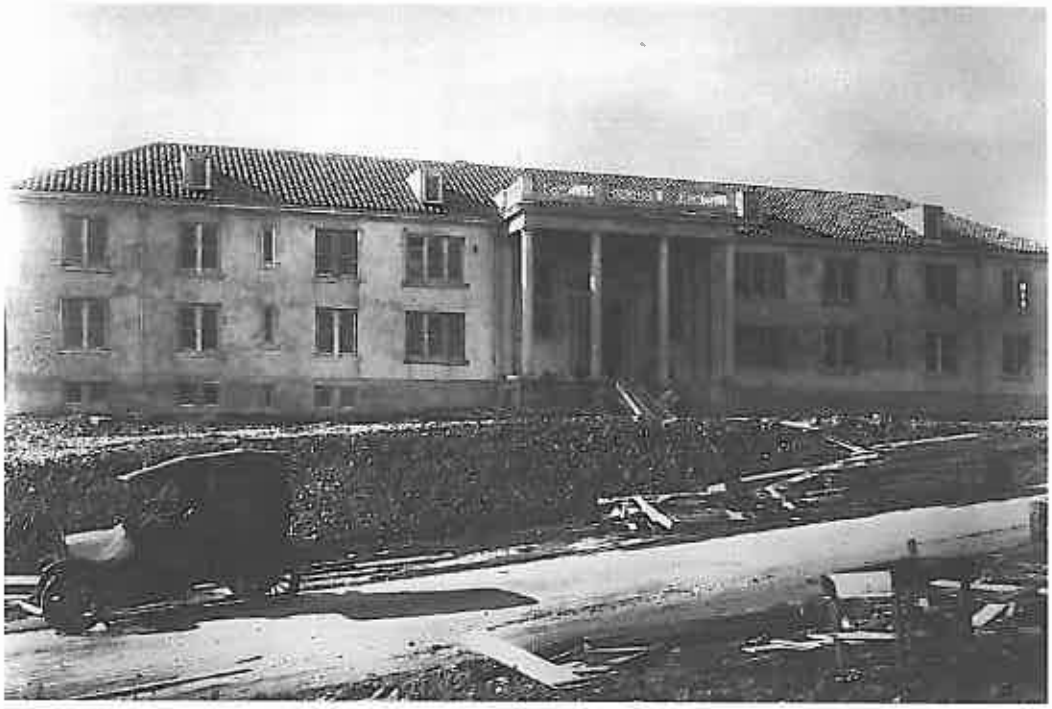
> *Enlisted men's barracks* [650] contained a mess hall. The stucco-covered brick building cost $165,000. H-shaped and with a one-story center rear wing, the three-story building had Spanish Colonial Revival features. Two-story verandas were located on the north (front) side and east and west ends. Red mission tile covered the roof.
>
> *Administration building* [651]. Cost, $52,500. Stucco-covered hollow tile walls. Dimensions 59 feet by 130 feet, two and one-half stories. Mission tile roof. Spanish Colonial Revival in design. Crissy Field headquarters occupied the ground floor and Major Arnold moved his offices into the second floor.

Above: Enlisted men's quarters, 650, Crissy Field, under construction, circa 1920 (east and north elevations); *U.S. Air Force neg. no. 122766AC; U.S. Air Force Photograph Collection, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Below: Enlisted men's quarters, 650, Crissy Field, after completion, October 6, 1928 (north elevation). The two-story verandahs on the east, north, and west sides were later enclosed. *U.S. Air Force neg. no. 123624AC; U.S. Air Force Photograph Collection, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Above: Noncommissioned officers' quarters for Crissy Field located on Ruckman Avenue, Fort Winfield Scott, circa 1921. From left to right: 1270, 1266, and 1263. View to the north. *U.S. Army photograph, USAF neg. no. 122762AC; National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Below: Noncommissioned officers' quarters for Crissy Field, circa 1921. Building 1266 in the foreground, 1270 to the left. View to the northeast. These quarters stood across the street from Fort Winfield Scott quarters. *U.S. Army photograph, USAF neg. no. 122763AC; National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

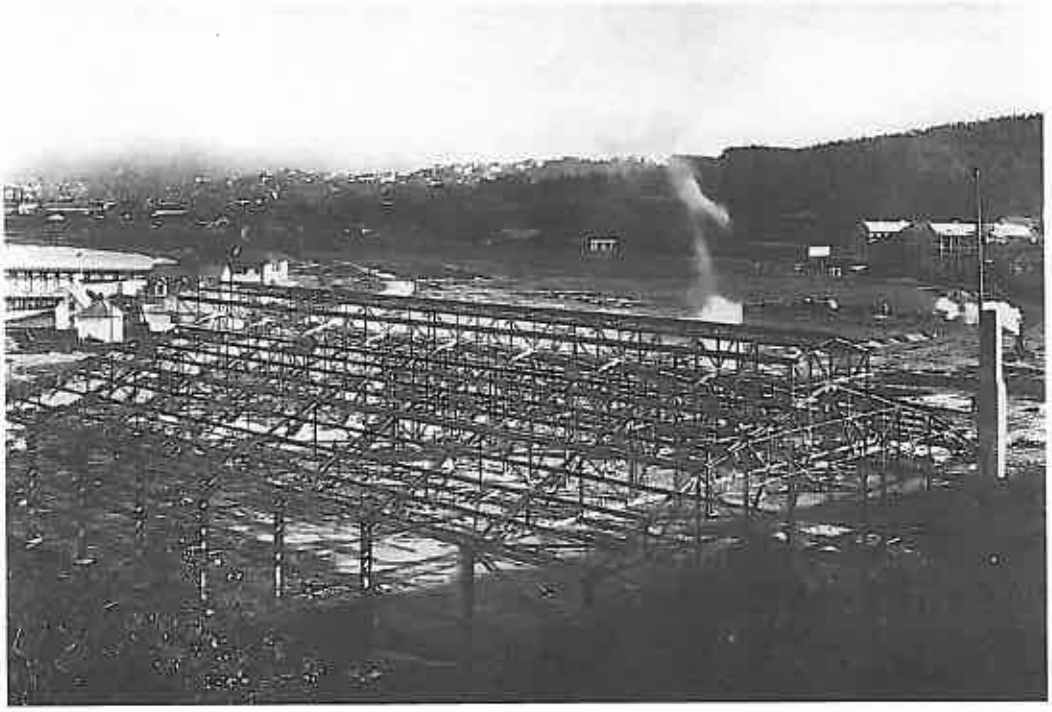


Above: Crissy Field bachelor officers' quarters, 951, on Lincoln Boulevard, circa 1920. Later named Scott Hall. South elevation. *U.S. Army photograph, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Below: Crissy Field officers' quarters under construction. Bachelor officers' quarters, 951, is at left. Quarters 952, 953, 954, 955, 956, and 957 are at right. View toward the northeast. *U.S. Army photograph, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Above: Crissy Field officers' quarters 958, 959, 960 961, 962, and 963, newly completed, circa 1921. Radio station, 966, is at the far end of the row. View toward the west. *U.S. Army photograph, National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Below: Crissy Field, circa 1920. Construction of seaplane hangar, 937. Barracks and headquarters buildings, 650 and 651, are to the right and the U. S. Coast Guard Station is to the left. View to the southwest. *U.S. Army photograph, USAF neg. no. 122768AC; National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*



Guardhouse [654]. Cost, $11,000. One story, 31 feet by 37 feet. Stucco-covered hollow tile walls. Spanish Colonial Revival features.

Noncommissioned officers' quarters. Three duplexes [1263, 1266, and 1270] on Ruckman Avenue, Fort Winfield Scott. Stucco covered walls. Mission tile roofs.

Crissy Field's officers' quarters were located on the bluff above the field, along Lincoln Boulevard.

Bachelor officers' quarters [951]. The two-and-a-half-story building, 57 feet by 153 feet, cost $64,500. Quarters of two rooms each for 18 officers. Stucco-covered hollow tile walls on a wood frame. Mission tile roof. It had a central portico with four tuscan columns.

Officers' quarters [952–964]. Thirteen cottages costing $8,900 each. Two-story, stucco-covered concrete walls, each building 35 feet by 42 feet. Mission tile roofs. Spanish Colonial Revival in design.

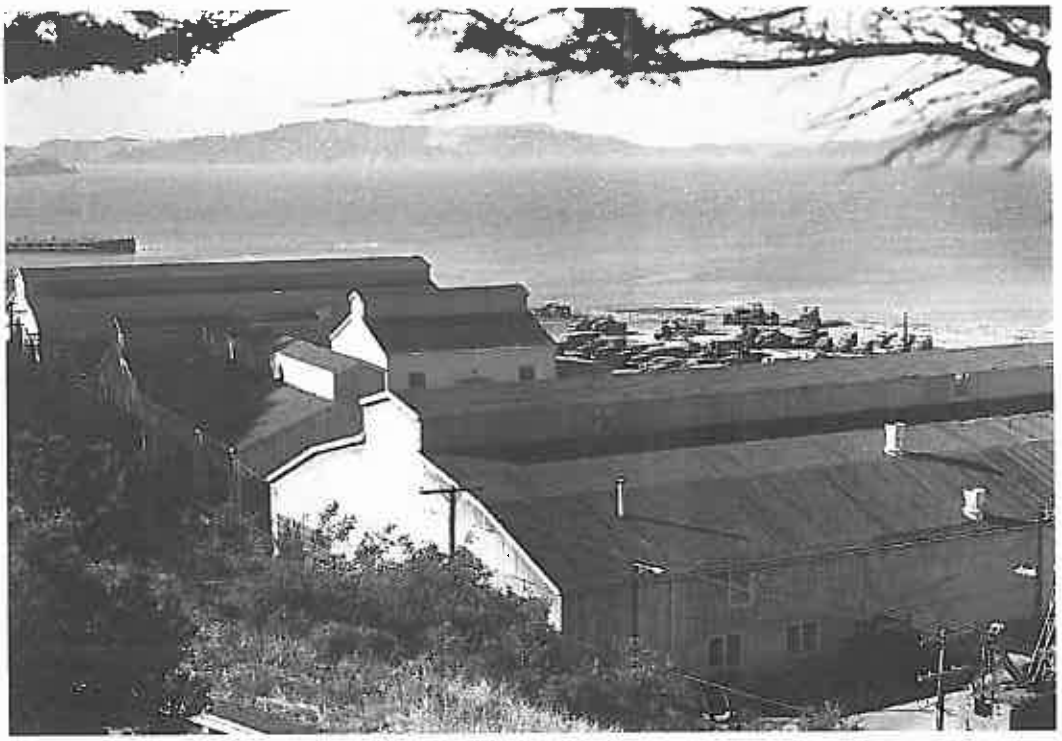
Garages [968 and 969]. Two garages located on Hoffman Street, each with a capacity of eight vehicles. One-story, wood-frame, concrete.

Radio receiving station [966]. Cost, $8,600. Stucco-covered hollow tile walls and mission tile roof. Dimensions 32 feet by 47 feet. It was too distant from the field for efficient operation and the radio system was moved down to the field. The building then became an officer's quarters.

Garage [920]. Built at a cost of $33,000. One-story, concrete walls on a steel frame. It measured 67 feet by 122 feet and maintained Crissy's large fleet of motor vehicles.

Two *hangers* [926 and 937]. One for landplanes [926], one for seaplanes [937]. Cost, $67,800 each and each measuring 112 feet by 161 feet. Industrial design.

Gas pump house [929]. One-story, 12 feet by 12 feet. Cost, $1,000. Concrete with a wood-frame addition.



Above: Crissy Field hangars and shops. From left to right: 937, 933, 935 and 926. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1990.*

Below: Crissy Field hangars and shops with gas station in the foreground, circa 1940s. *Presidio Army Museum Photographic Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Above: Crissy field is the cleared and level area, upper right. Some buildings in the World War I North Cantonment, middle right, have already been demolished. Photograph 1923. View to the west. *National Archives photograph.*

Below: Crissy Field, November 18, 1924. Aircraft and service vehicles are lined up for inspection. *U.S. Army photograph, USAF neg no. 122770A.C.; National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution.*

Armorer's storage [931]. One-story, concrete, measuring 20 feet by 30 feet. Cost, $8,900.

Dope shop and boiler house [933]. One- and two-story, steel-frame, measuring 60 feet by 232 feet. Cost, $91,600. Industrial design.

Motor testing building [934]. Cost, $17,700. Two-story, stucco-covered concrete building, measuring 48 feet by 64 feet.

Aero storehouse [935]. One-and-a-half-story, reinforced concrete, 60 feet by 62 feet. Cost $31,200.

Grease rack (former building 945 — no longer extant).

Flagstaff. Located in front of the guardhouse. No longer extant.

Seaplane ramp. Concrete.

Landing strip. The early landing strip was a rather short stretch of ground extending eastward from the hangars for a distance of 2,000 feet, to the point where the old roadways and foundations of North Cantonment intruded onto the landing field approach.[15]

Major Arnold approved of all the new facilities except the officers' quarters: "The Officers Quarters...are so small and so inadequate for the needs of officers that they should never be duplicated under any circumstances." When France's Field Marshal Ferdinand Foch, the Allied supreme commander in France in 1918, visited San Francisco in 1921, he inspected Crissy Field declaring it to be, "Le dernier mot en champs d'aviation" (the last word in airfields).[16]

Crissy Field's garrison in 1921 consisted of the 91st Squadron (Observation), the 15th Aerial Photographic Section, and, temporarily, the 14th and 24th Balloon Companies who assisted the garrison in landscaping and beautifying the new field. Later that year a unit of the U.S. Air Reserve, the 316th Reserve Squadron (Observation), was organized at Crissy. This outfit met on Monday nights and alternate weekends for training and flying. All volunteers, these

Above: Maj. George H. Brett, first commanding officer of Crissy Field with his DH-4B De Havilland observation plane no. 1. Brett wears an unidentified arm band. The photograph may have been taken on the day of a funeral of a deceased A. E. F. veteran in March 1922, or on Aerial Day, March 22, 1922. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: Sgt. Robert H. Fatt, Jr. piloted DeHavilland DH-4B observation plane no. 7, of the 91st Observation Squadron. Note the original redwood siding on the hangar at left. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

reservists received no pay for their efforts. As time passed, many dropped out and the unit experienced difficulty in maintaining full strength.[17]

The first commanding officer of the field, Maj. George H. Brett, like Arnold and Spaatz, belonged to the small group of army aviators who were destined to become leaders of the U.S. Army Air Corps. A graduate of the Virginia Military Institute, Brett joined the Aviation Section of the Signal Corps in 1916. In 1939 he became the assistant chief of the Air Corps, and in 1941 arrived in England to coordinate air power issues. An excellent administrator and supply expert, General Brett arrived in Australia in 1942 to organize military operations there. He participated in arranging General MacArthur's escape from Corregidor and succeeded in getting Flying Fortresses to Mindanao to rescue the general and his family. MacArthur, however, had a disdain for non-combat officers, and Brett suffered as a result.[18]

Brett quickly organized the garrison and in a letter to Washington set forth Crissy Field's missions:

1. To furnish observation, day and night, for artillery practice carried on monthly in the Coast Defenses of San Francisco.

2. To furnish photographic ships for the 15th Aerial Photographic Section.

3. To furnish airplanes for special missions authorized by the Chief, U.S. Army Air Service, such as photographic cross country trips to obtain educational films for various news weeklies.

4. To furnish airplanes for the flying officers, Headquarters, Ninth Corps Area.

5. To participate in various Air Service exhibits in connection with educational campaigns carried on by the air officer, Ninth Corps Area.[19]

Beginning in 1921 and continuing for the life of Crissy Field, Crissy's airmen carried out these missions with great success. In the autumn of 1921 a Crissy aircraft observed the target practice of the great 12-inch guns of Battery Spencer at Fort Baker — 10 shots at distances greater than 10,000 yards. The plane was able to check with terrestrial observers by radio to determine within a few yards the shots' impact with relation to the target. In that first season a Crissy aircraft flew Professor Bailey Wilis, president of the Seismological Society of America, the length of the San Andreas fault, observing and photographing the earthquake rift. The field furthered interest in military air by hosting a "Flying Circus" complete with stunt flying

Children of Crissy Field officers congregate in front of one of the officers' quarters about 1922. At far left is Col. Henry "Hap" Arnold's son, Hank; next, Lucille Brett and Dora Devol Brett; the boy with a hand to his forehead is another son of Colonel Arnold; the baby is Major Brett's son, Devol; the oldest girl, holding the hands of the two youngest, is Lois Arnold; the boy third from the right is "Billy" Bruce Arnold; and the boys first, second and fourth from the right are the children of Lt. Robert E. Self. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

and parachute jumps. Twenty thousand citizens came to watch. Annually the 91st Observation Squadron dispatched aircraft to the National Forests during fire season to spot fires all over the western states. The planes also mapped bug-infested areas and surveyed road construction in the forests.

Fulfilling a request from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Crissy's 15th Aerial Photographic Section carried out aerial photography in the western states, including the cities of Seattle, Tacoma, Everett, Bellingham, Grays Harbor, Vancouver, Portland, and Astoria. The U.S. Department of the Interior asked the airmen to photograph such landmarks as Lassen Volcanic and Yosemite national parks. Major Brett and two of his pilots explored the crater of the volcanic Lassen Peak by air in 1924. Northern California's Lassen, although quiet at the time, had been volcanic as recently as 1921. Major Brett's plane, while swooping in and out the crater, hit an air pocket that caused the craft to drop suddenly 2,000 feet. His companions thought the plane had crashed but were relieved to find him on the ground at the Red Bluff

The children of Crissy Field's first commanding officer, Maj. George H. Brett, along with playmates, pose on the wing of a biplane at Crissy Field. Among the seated children, fourth from left is Dora Devol Brett and sixth is her sister Lucille Brett. Dora Devol, in an interview with the National Park Service in 1992, recounted her childhood at Crissy Field. She is the granddaughter of Maj. Gen. Carroll Devol, formerly the depot quartermaster at San Francisco, who favored the adoption of Mission Revival architecture at Fort Winfield Scott. Her father, Major Brett, encouraged Crissy's families to fly over San Francisco Bay in army airplanes. Dora's first ride found her sitting on her grandmother's lap in a DeHavilland's open cockpit. The Brett children remained friends of the Arnolds and the others at Crissy throughout their lives in the Army Air Corps and the U.S. Air Force. *Dora Devol Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

landing strip. A newspaper described the incident as "one of the most skillful yet daring bits of aviation thus far recorded in Western aeronautics." In addition to the coastal defenses of San Francisco, Crissy aircraft cooperated in troop training at Camp Lewis, Washington, Fort MacArthur at Los Angeles, the Presidio of Monterey, and other western posts. Closer to home it carried out earthquake drills with the Presidio's 30th Infantry Regiment.

In 1926 the 91st Squadron participated in joint Army-Navy maneuvers. Its planes discovered an "enemy" fleet approaching San Francisco and successfully alerted ground forces by radio, flares, and Very pistols†. In 1930 a Crissy plane piloted by Lt. Edwin Bolzien flew Neil M. Judd, Smithsonian Institution, over Arizona's Salt River Valley so that he could survey prehistoric canals.[20]

While Major Arnold had responsibilities for all army air activities in the eight western states that comprised the Ninth Corps Area, he was no "chairborne" administrator. In 1921 he entered a race against carrier pigeons from Portland, Oregon, to Crissy Field and won. Later, in 1934 he led a flight of B-10 bombers from Seattle to Alaska and return in a test of aerial resupply. But his time as headquarters air officer came to an end in the fall of 1922 when he returned to San Diego's Rockwell Field as its commanding officer. Lt. Col. William E. Gillmore succeeded him at Ninth Corps headquarters.[21]

The 1919 Transcontinental Reliability and Endurance Test was but the first of a series of events that drew national attention to Crissy Field and to advances in aviation science. In September 1922 the huge American dirigible† (zeppelin) C-2 made Crissy Field the final destination of her maiden transcontinental flight. An army band and a vast crowd welcomed her to San Francisco. Two years later the "From Dawn to Dusk" flight captured the nation's attention. To demonstrate that a plane and a pilot had the stamina to fly across the entire country in the light of one day and to dramatize the commercial possibilities resulting from such a feat, Lt. Russell L. Maughan prepared for the adventure. In 1923 he made two attempts, both ending in failure. Now, on June 23, just before dawn, 1924, his Curtiss PW-8 lifted off from Mitchell Field on Long Island. Twenty-one hours and 48 minutes later he circled over San Francisco Bay. A fog made it difficult for him to determine ground features but when he saw Alcatraz Island's military prison's revolving light he got his bearings and dropped through the fog and landed his plane on the lit up landing strip to the roar of 50,000 greeters. He had flown 2,670 miles, making five stops. Already known for his aeronautical abilities, Maughan now entered the annals of flight.[22]

Also in 1924 international competition led to the "Round the World" circumnavigation of the globe by air. Four Douglas World Cruiser aircraft — *Seattle*, *New Orleans*, *Boston*, and *Chicago* — formed the American team. Lt. Lowell H. Smith, who had arrived at Crissy Field in 1920, commanded *Chicago*. The planes departed Seattle on April 6, 1924. When flagship *Seattle* crashed into a mountain in the Aleutians, Lieutenant Smith assumed the leadership. *Boston* sank into the Atlantic near the Faroe Islands between Iceland and Norway. The remaining two aircraft successfully circled the globe, visiting Japan, China, Thailand, India, Turkey, France, and Scotland. *Chicago* and *New Orleans*, accompanied by *"Boston II,"* landed at Crissy Field to a rousing welcome on September 25 before proceeding on to Seattle to conclude a triumphant 26,345-mile flight. American aviation had reached another milestone.[23]

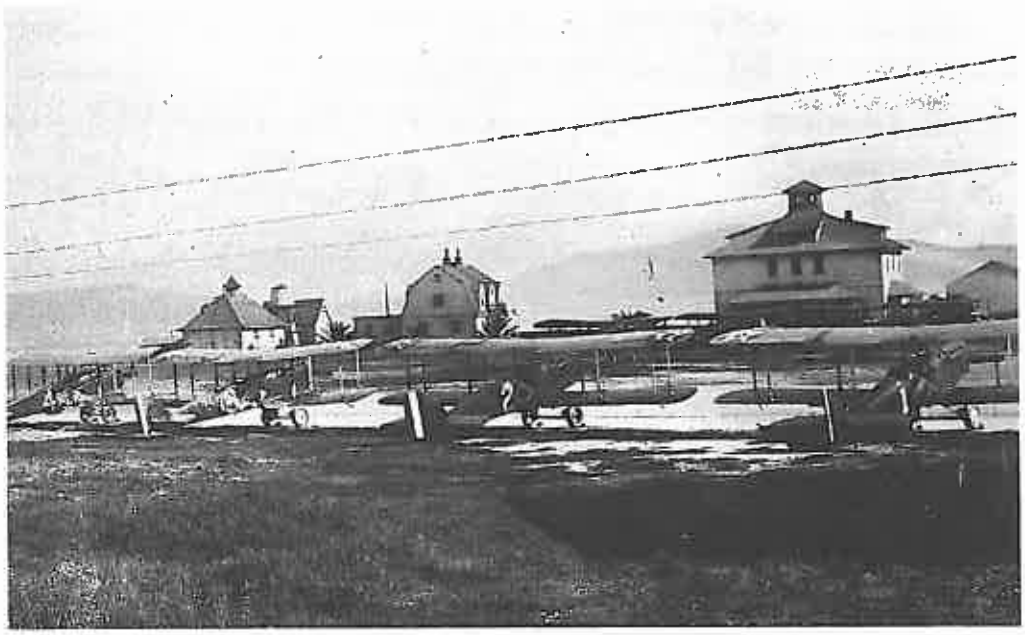
Air Service officers' quarters, 959-964. Porches have been enclosed and glassed in to create additional rooms. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, June 1990.*

In 1925 the U.S. Navy undertook to fly nonstop from San Francisco to Hawaii. The U.S. Army provided the services of Crissy Field for the naval seaplanes' preparations. First, however, the Army had to clear away sand from the little-used seaplane ramp. All being ready, two Naval Aircraft Factory PN9 seaplanes taxied to San Pablo Bay and lifted off on August 30 on the 2,100-mile journey. One plane was forced down 300 miles out and was towed back to San Francisco. The second PN9 almost reached Hawaii but had to settle on the ocean. Rescue boats reached the craft, rescued the crew, and towed the ship to Kauai.

In 1926 the U.S. Army Air Service became the U.S. Army Air Corps. While many of its leaders believed it should have complete independence, Congress retained it under the Army. But the new name added prestige and, more important, Congress provided funds for a 5-year expansion program. One of the early major undertakings of the Air Corps was its attempt to fly nonstop to Hawaii. Lts. Lester J. Maitland and Albert F. Hegenberger landed their Fokker C-2 monoplane at Crissy Field in 1927 for preliminary preparations. Because Crissy Field was too short for the fully loaded Fokker, it lifted off from Oakland on June 28, 1927. Almost 26 hours later, the plane landed at Wheeler Field outside Honolulu, having flown 2,400 miles.

Above: Crissy Field, circa 1921-1924, with DH-4B observation planes 9 through 14 of the 91st Observation Squadron on the flight line. Buildings, left to right, are the landplane hangar, now 926, the motor test building, 934, the aero storehouse, 935, and the seaplane hangar, 937. View to the southwest. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: Behind De Havilland DH-4B observation planes 1 through 4 of the 91st Observation Squadron at Crissy Field stand the buildings of the Fort Point Coast Guard Station in one of the earliest views found of it at this location, circa 1922. The old boathouse on the far left with the cupola and the center building with the gable windows and two chimneys, built in 1889, were moved 700 feet west to this location around 1914 to make room for the racetrack of the Panama Pacific International Exposition. The largest of the buildings, a new boathouse with marine railway, was built shortly thereafter. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



This flight marked the Air Corps' first attempt to use radio beacon navigation for a transoceanic flight.[24]

Once Crissy Field became fully operational, additional construction took place. In addition to the Air Mail hangar's completion in January 1922, two more steel-frame hangars, located between the barracks and the Air Mail hangar, were built in 1922 and 1923. Adjacent to each other, they were originally conceived as storehouses for air service material, but with the organization of reserve units the buildings became classrooms, a drill hall, and a gymnasium for weekend and annual training. Joined by a small office building in 1928, they became identified as one structure [643]. "Crissy Field" was painted in very large letters on their roofs. Air Mail operations ended at Crissy Field in 1926 and the Air Mail hangar was converted to barracks for ROTC students two years later. A small latrine [641] was constructed near it.

Married officers and their families continued to find their quarters terribly small and crowded. Some relief came in 1922 when a bedroom was added to the rear of each unit. A servant's room was added to each set in 1928, and the front porch was glassed in to become a "lounge."[25]

When the 91st Squadron first arrived at San Francisco, it flew DeHavilland DH-4B aircraft, surplus from the Great War. In 1925 seven Douglas O-2s, replaced an equal number of the DH-4Bs. A heavier aircraft, the O-2 could tow targets much more satisfactorily. The reserve units meanwhile trained on JNS-1 "Jennies," also left over from the war. In 1933 Crissy Field's air force amounted to 23 aircraft, including observation planes, a transport, a photographic plane, and a trainer. Two years later, when the War Department began planning to close the field and the Coast Artillery activities had greatly declined from a lack of funds, Crissy Field had only five airplanes.[26]

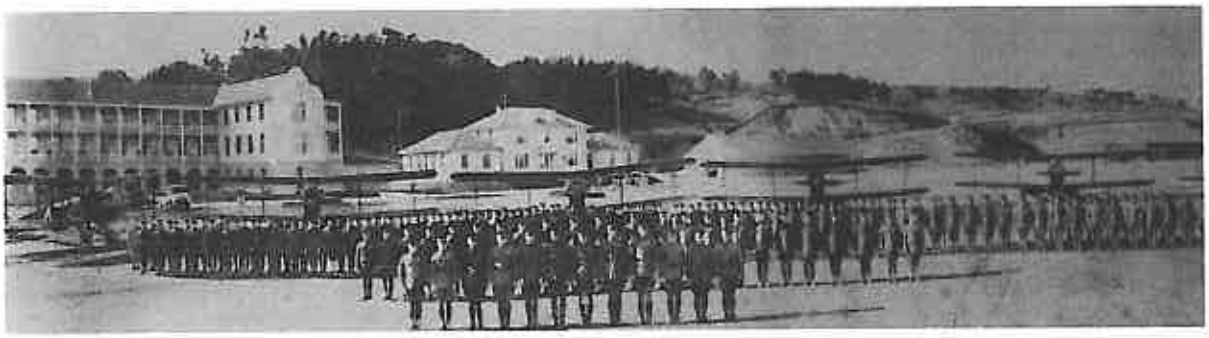
Colonel Arnold had requested the removal of buildings in the adjacent North Cantonment as early as 1919. By 1926 all of the cantonment's structures as well as the exposition's Oregon Building had disappeared and the eastern end of the area contained only a polo field for the Presidio's garrison. During these years efforts continued to improve the field's "landing mat" or runway. In 1924 Ninth Corps Area planned to widen the field by dredging and filling. It also hoped to have the coast guard station moved elsewhere. But neither concept came to fruition.

Aerial view of Crissy Field, September 15, 1931. North Cantonment has been cleared of all wartime buildings. *U.S. Army Military History Institute.*

In 1926 the Quartermaster Department's construction quartermaster undertook to improve the flying field. He leveled it, applied a heavy coating of clay, rolled it, then topped it with loam and seeded it with grass. All drains were cleaned and new drains added. The City and County of San Francisco contributed the clay free of cost. The loam came from the Presidio. Costs amounted to $14,133 for labor and $4,674 for materials. An *Air Service News Letter* described the field as then being 5,600 feet long by 400 feet wide.[27]

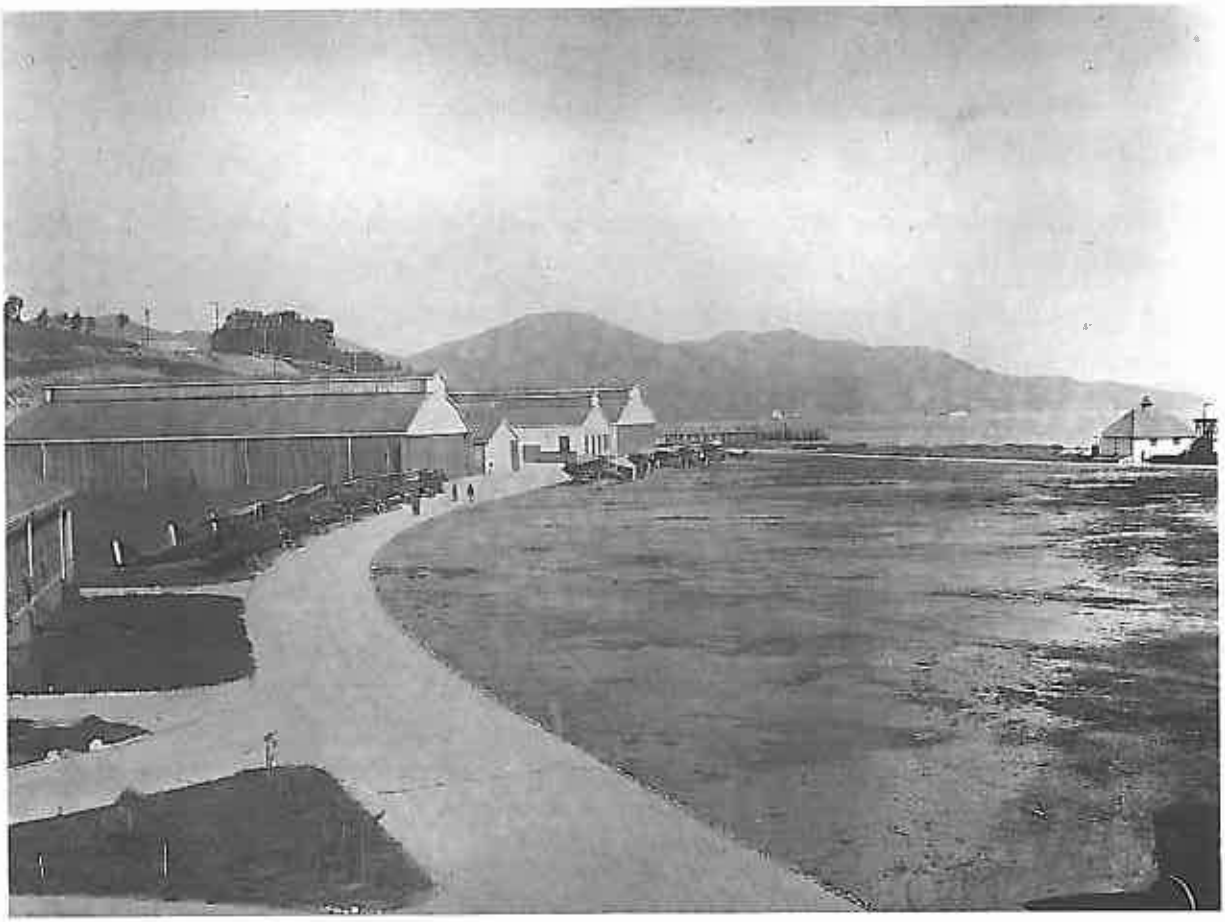
Although Crissy Field's future was in doubt, it benefitted considerably from the Great Depression's Works Progress Administration's programs in the 1930s. Three projects — landscaping, painting, and resurfacing runway and landscaping — took place.

> **Landscaping.** Filling in low areas; constructing roads, parking areas, garages, and playground; landscaping in vicinity of officers' and noncommissioned officers' quarters; landscaping and fire prevention work around flying field; and construction of two double tennis courts, one in rear of officers' quarters and one east of the barracks.



Above: The 91st Observation Squadron on parade at Crissy Field, circa 1922. The aircraft, DeHavilland DH-4Bs, are lined up behind the soldiers. In the background, Crissy Field buildings are, from the left: enlisted barracks, 650, administration building, 651, garage, 920, and landplane hangar, 926. Note Crissy Field flagstaff at the intersection of Crissy Field Avenue and Mason Street in front of building 954. View toward the southwest. *Presidio Museum Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Below: DeHavilland DH-4B aircraft of the Ninety-first Observation Squadron stand on the flight line in front of the hangars at Crissy Field, circa 1921-1924. View toward the northwest, with the Marin Headlands visible in the distance. The Golden Gate Strait, before construction of the Golden Gate Bridge, is out of sight to the left, between Crissy Field and the Marin headlands. *Dora Devol Brett Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*



Painting. Steel brushing and painting buildings; painting yellow and black checkerboard on roofs of the two hangars [926 and 937]; and painting obstructions and boundary lights at the field.

Resurfacing runway and landscaping. Resurfacing 400,000 square feet of landing runway; constructing a six-foot woven wire fence around east and south sides of Crissy Field; and landscaping the area adjacent to the Golden Gate Bridge highway approach (Doyle Drive).

The "resurfacing" project was, in fact, the construction of an all-weather landing mat, 2,000 feet by 200 feet. It consisted of 7 inches of crushed rock as a base, covered with a coat of leveling rock rolled and packed, and topped with 1 1/2 inches of natural rock asphalt, rolled and packed.[28]

Like the Presidio of San Francisco, Crissy Field received visits from Washington officials. The year 1923 witnessed the arrival of the chief of the Army Air Service, Maj. Gen. Mason M. Patrick (who had recently learned to fly) in April, and an inspection of the field by Secretary of War John W. Weeks a month later.[29] Major Brett commanded the field during these visits but he was transferred a year later, in 1924. Maj. Delos C. Emmons, once an infantry lieutenant at the Presidio, succeeded Brett as commander, remaining at Crissy until 1928. Others followed: Maj. Gerald C. Brant in 1928; Maj. Lawrence W. McIntosh in 1931; Maj. Michael F. Davis, 1932; Maj. Donald P. Muse, 1933; and Maj. Floyd E. Galloway, in 1936.[30]

At the time of Crissy's establishment, flying was still a dangerous, if exciting, occupation. In the 12 months between June 1920 and June 1921, 330 crashes occurred in the Air Service, killing 69 officers and severely injuring 27 others. Crissy Field's crash rate for its first 10 years averaged eight per year. Its first fatality, however, did not occur until 1928, when a reserve officer crashed into San Francisco Bay. Not all accidents occurred in the air. In 1933 fire broke out in the gasoline pumphouse [929] and five men were seriously injured. Firemen succeeded in preventing the fire from spreading to nearby gasoline storage tanks.[31]

Crissy Field became only marginally involved in the Air Corps' disastrous attempt to deliver air mail in 1934. Unhappy with the air mail system, President Franklin D. Roosevelt in early 1934 directed the Postmaster General James A. Farley to cancel all existing air mail contracts. Roosevelt then asked the chief of the Air Corps, Maj. Gen. Benjamin D. Foulois, if his pilots could take over the task. Foulois said yes and he choose 14 main routes covering some 13,000 air miles, allocating 500 men and aircraft to the task. The weather that winter was worse than

Crissy Field, circa 1938, after completion of the Golden Gate Bridge. By then most aircraft had moved to Crissy's replacement, Hamilton Field, north of the Golden Gate. Note the checkerboard pattern on hangar roofs and the battleship heading out to sea. View to the northwest. *Collection of Diane Nicholson.*

usual with fierce storms sweeping the nation. Almost immediately the Air Corps suffered two crashes causing three fatalities. More crashes followed. Within three weeks, nine flyers lost their lives. The public became thoroughly alarmed. Eighty days later the government cancelled the Air Corps' further participation. On May 8 a report noted that a B-10 bomber departed Crissy Field on the last Air Corps coast-to-coast mail run, arriving at Newark, New Jersey, 14 hours later. Thus ended "the most ill-fated peacetime venture in the history of the Air Corps." But out of the tragedy came the realization that the U.S. Army Air Corps' aircraft and equipment demanded modernization.[32]

Beginning in the early 1930s talk began within the Air Corps that Crissy Field might be closed. In 1933 the commanding officer, Major Muse, reported that due to poor workmanship and the blasting from the Golden Gate Bridge construction, the field's buildings were deteriorating. The coast guard station continued to interfere with operations and the new bridge increased the hazard to flyers. In 1935 the War Department developed plans to close the field, citing the poor percentage of flying days, the construction of the new Hamilton Field in Marin County, and the reopening of other fields in California. A congressional delegation visited Crissy Field and it, too, recommended abandonment.

A few months before the closing of the field, the U.S. Department of Commerce published a description of Crissy Field as it existed on January 1, 1936:

> San Francisco — Crissy Field, Army. One mile E. of Golden Gate along shores of San Francisco Bay. Lat. 37°48′; long. 122°28′. Alt. 8 feet. Irregular, 5200 by 400 feet, 2-way field, sandy loam, level, artificial drainage. Landing mat 2,000 by 200 feet in center of field. CRISSY FIELD on hangar. [Golden Gate Bridge] Tower, 750 feet high, 1 1/2 miles NW, obstruction lighted; buildings to E. and SE; hills to SW and W. Boundary, obstruction, and landing area flood lights. Servicing facilities day and night. For civilian use only on special arrangements. Teletypewriter.[33]

After Crissy Field closed, the Presidio's garrison, then consisting primarily of the 30th Infantry Regiment, took over the Lower Presidio, fulfilling Major Harts' dream of 1907 by employing the area as a drill field and training area. Presidio post headquarters along with the 30th Infantry's headquarters moved into the former airfield's administration building [651]. During World War II the Fourth Army Intelligence School (the Japanese-language school) occupied the former Air Mail hangar [640] for six months in 1941–1942.

By the end of the war, the U.S. Army had some 2,000 light aircraft assigned to most combat organizations for courier, liaison, photographic, reconnaissance, column control, and emergency supply missions. When the U.S. Air Force was separated from the U.S. Army in 1947, these aviation functions remained with the Army. Following the Korean War, the Army had about 5,000 aircraft, either fixed or rotary wing. At Crissy Field, the Army employed these aircraft during that war for liaison and medical purposes.

In the late 1950s the field became known as Crissy Army Airfield. A steel and glass tower, 52 feet high, was moved to Crissy in 1958 for air traffic control. In 1959 the landing mat was repaved and a riprap seawall protected the shoreline. A large engineer field maintenance building [924], was constructed at that time. A 1959 description stated that the flexible pavement runway measured 2,500 feet by 50 feet. A year later the runway was extended to 3,100 feet, stripped, graded, and paved with 2 inches of thick bituminous concrete over 6 inches of crushed aggregate base. The field's mission in the 1950s included the operation and maintenance of light army aircraft in the support of army activities in the Sixth U.S. Army area of operations; the maintenance and housing of helicopters used in support of the Air Defense Missile Bases (Nike) in the Bay Area; a training site for army reservists (Harmon Hall); and a base for the San Francisco Police Department's helicopters.[34]

Crissy Field, circa 1970, then called Crissy Army Airfield and used by fixed-wing aircraft. View to the east. *Collection of Amy Meyer.*

In 1959 Crissy was authorized 16 military aircraft. In addition the Presidio Flying Club, organized in 1957, and the Civil Air Patrol maintained eight civilian aircraft at the field. In February 1960 the *Star Presidian* published a photo showing how army buses were used as revetments† to protect the planes from a fierce windstorm. That same year the 51st Engineer Company began removing World War II temporary buildings from Letterman's Crissy Annex in Area A to provide an additional approach zone for landing aircraft. In 1967 the Presidio wanted to remove more Area A buildings but Letterman Hospital refused to let them go as long as the war in Vietnam lasted. Crissy Army Airfield made only a limited contribution to the Vietnam war in that its aircraft were used to airlift wounded military personnel from Travis Air Force Base to Letterman. Echoes from the past reached Crissy Field in 1961 when Hap Arnold's son, Col. Henry H. Arnold, Jr., arrived at Sixth U.S. Army headquarters as the new deputy information officer.[35]

In 1972 the Golden Gate National Recreation Area was established in the Bay Area. The U.S. Army permitted a portion of the shoreline at the field to the Interior Department. Before long

Above: Crissy Field, circa 1920s-1930s. Note the more than 50 airplanes. *San Francisco Public Library.*

Below: Crissy Field. Another view of the unusual massing of aircraft. Fort Winfield Scott buildings are visible at the top of the photograph. *San Francisco Public Library.*

the public urged that the field be closed to aircraft and the area opened to recreational activity. In October the Army's chief of engineers recommended that Crissy be converted to a heliport only. At midnight February 14, 1974, Crissy Army Airfield was officially closed. A month later it was redesignated "Army Heliport," to be used only for very important persons and medevac aircraft. Helicopters continued to land at the Presidio of San Francisco's heliport in 1994, 75 years after it first had airplanes.[36]

The *Last Word in Airfields* summarized the historical significance of the Presidio of San Francisco's Crissy Field:

> The first air coast defense station on the west coast and the only such in the United States remaining intact.
>
> The only army air base in the western United States on continuous active duty from 1919 to 1936.
>
> The site of numerous aviation firsts in the 1920s, an important decade called "aviation's adventuring years."
>
> Its service to other government agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Geological Service, and the Smithsonian Institution.
>
> Its training of Reserve personnel and stimulating an interest in flying among civilians.
>
> The oldest extant airfield in the Bay Area and the early terminus for the U.S. Air Mail Service.
>
> And for its association with such great military leaders as Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, Carl A. "Tooey" Spaatz, George H. Brett, and Delos C. Emmons.[37]

Chapter 19 Notes:

1. This account on Crissy Field is based primarily on Stephen A. Haller, *The Last Word in Airfields, A Special History Study of Crissy Field, Presidio of San Francisco, California* (San Francisco: NPS, 1994). Historian Haller's study is the definitive history of Crissy Field and this chapter is quite indebted to it.

2. A graduate of Lowell High School, San Francisco, Selfridge was the first man killed in a heavier-than-air powered crash. He had graduated from West Point in 1903, a classmate of Douglas MacArthur. The site of an air meet near San Francisco in 1911 was temporarily named in his honor. A coastal gun battery in Hawaii and a U.S. Air Force base in Michigan are also named for him.

3. Hagedorn, *Wood*, 2:100, citing the *New York World*, August 2, 1910.

4. Svanevik and Burgett, "Aviation Revolution," *The Times*, November 1 and 8, 1991; Paul W. Beck, "The Doves of War," *Sunset Magazine* (March 1911), pp. 292–296 (both articles brought to my attention by Haller); Alfred Goldberg, editor, *A History of the United States Air Force, 1907–1957* (New York: D. Van Nostrand, 1957), pp. 4–6. The 2d Battalion, 30th Infantry Regiment, from the Presidio attended the meet, January 6–24, in connection with military experiments. Among the officers was Lt. Delos Emmons who later commanded Crissy Field. Two months earlier Ely had succeeded in flying a plane off a specially constructed launching deck on cruiser *Birmingtom*. Potter, *Illustrated History*, pp. 132–133.

5. Mondey, *Pictorial*, pp. 13–25.

6. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. vi and 10; Margot Patterson Doss, "San Francisco at Your Feet, Daring Aviators of the Presidio," *Sunday Examiner and Chronicle*, July 14, 1968.

7. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 13–14.

8. Henry Arnold had already established a remarkable record for himself. One of the very first army officers to become a pilot, he had graduated from West Point in 1907 and became an infantry lieutenant. Attracted to airplanes early on, he transferred to the Aeronautical Division in 1911. In World War I he was promoted to colonel but did not serve overseas. In 1935 Brig. General Arnold became the assistant chief of the U.S. Army Air Corps and, 3 years later, the chief. In 1941 Lt. General Arnold took command of the Army Air Forces and in 1943 received the temporary rank of general (four stars). In 1944 he formed the Twentieth Air Force, a global strategic bombing force flying B-29 bombers. In December of that year he was one of four army generals promoted to the five-star rank of general of the army. Arnold retired to his farm near Sonoma, California, in 1946. Then, in 1949, he became general of the air force. He died in 1950 at the age of 64.

Military historian R. Ernest Dupuy wrote that Arnold "was the archpriest of air power." It was his concept which brought his Army Air Forces to become the mightiest striking arm of aerial warfare ever seen, founded on his simple simile of "a three-legged stool — pilots, planes and airfields." His slogan was "Keep 'em flying." Dupuy, *Compact History*, p. 249; Webster's Military Biographies. Also see Morris Janowitz, *The Professional Soldier, A Social and Political Portrait* (New York: Free Press, 1960), pp. 157–158, for a delightful portrait of the young man. Arnold's autobiography, *Global Mission* (New York: Harper and Brothers, 1949) describes his military career.

9. Haller, *The Last Word*, p. 15.

10. Some blamed Crissy's death on his lack of experience. He had been in the Signal Corps for two years, had served as commandant of the School of Military Aeronautics at Princeton University, and had organized the Army's Aeronautical Ground School in World War I. *San Francisco Examiner*, October 14, 1919; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 16–17.

11. Carl Spaatz added the second "a" to his name in 1937 in a failed effort to have people call him "spahtz" instead of "spats", a gentleman's clothing fad at that time. Spaatz graduated from West Point in 1914 and accepted a commission in the Infantry. Following a tour in Hawaii he began aviation training at San Diego in 1915. In World War I he commanded the 31st Aero Squadron in France where in 3 weeks of combat he shot down three enemy planes. Promoted to temporary major in 1918, he was assigned to the Western Department in 1919. In 1920 both he and Arnold reverted to their Regular Army ranks of captain. Because of his combat experience Spaatz was promoted to permanent major in July 1920, thus outranking Arnold, his boss. To ease the situation Spaatz transferred to the command of Mather Field near Sacramento.

Spaatz served in a variety of positions in army air and in army schools. Promoted to brigadier general in 1940, he became the chief of Air Staff under Arnold who then was chief of Army Air Forces. In World War II he successively commanded Eighth Air Force in England, U.S. Army Air Forces in Europe, Allied Northwest African Air Forces, Strategic Air Force Europe, and Strategic Air Force Pacific (atomic bombs). In 1946 Spaatz succeeded Arnold as commander in chief, Army Air Forces and in 1947 became the first chief of staff of the new U.S. Air Force. He retired in 1948 with the rank of general (four stars). Spaatz died at Washington, D.C. in 1974. McHenry, *Webster's Biography*; Thomas M. Coffee, *HAP, Military Aviator, The Story of the U.S. Air Force and the Man who Built It, General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold* (New York: Viking, 1982), pp. 104–105; O. Westover, December 29, 1919, to C. Spaatz — a document received from Historian Haller.

12. Haller, *The Last Word*, p. 39; Reuther, "Crissy Field," pp. 2–4.

13. Coffee, *Hap*, p. 104; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 17–18; Reuther, "Crissy Field."

14. Haller, *The Last Word, pp. 3 and 25; Thompson*, Special History, p. 144. Crissy Field's first commanding officer, Maj. George H. Brett, did not arrive at San Francisco until October. The date of the formal ceremony has not been established.

15. The building descriptions are taken from Harrison, *Presidio Physical History*, vols. 6 and 7, and NPS, *Presidio of San Francisco, Presidio National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms*, [San Francisco: NPS], 1993.

16. Haller, *The Last Word*, p. 20; Dupuy, *Military Biography*, calls Foch France's finest soldier of the twentieth century.

17. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 45–47; Reuther, "Crissy Field," p. 3; Maurer, *Aviation*, pp. 88–92. College students enrolled in the ROTC also trained at Crissy. And in 1923 the 447th Reserve Squadron (Pursuit) organized at the field.

18. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 39–41 and 116; William Manchester, *American Caesar, Douglas MacArthur, 1880–1964* (Boston: Little, Brown, 1978), pp. 243, 255, and 273. Following Australia Brett commanded the USA, Caribbean. He retired in 1946.

19. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 22–23.

20. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 23–24, 28, 42, 60, 64, and 71–72; unidentified San Francisco newspaper, January 21, 1924.

21. Goldberg, *U.S. Air Force*, p. 38; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 33 and 45; Reuther, "Crissy Field." Crissy had army homing pigeons from 1922 to 1926. The loft was located immediately east of the barracks.

22. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 32 and 53; Reuther, "Crissy Field;" Maurer, *Aviation*, p. 185; Goldberg, *U.S. Air Force*, p. 34.

23. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 55–56; Reuther, "Crissy Field;" Mondey, *Pictorial History*, pp. 27–28. *Chicago* has been preserved at the National Air and Space Museum, Smithsonian Institution, while *New Orleans* is at the Air Force Museum, Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, Ohio.

24. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 57–58 and 64–65; Mondey, *Pictorial History*, pp. 29–32.

25. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 41–42 and 68; Harrison, *Presidio Physical History*, vol. 7; Thompson, *Special History*, p. 144; NPS, National Register of Historic Places Registration Forms.

26. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 69, 71, and 118.

27. E. D. Russ, December 29, 1926, to commanding officer, PSF, OCE, RG 77, NA; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 47–48 and 61. The figure 5,600 feet apparently included the polo field, which was prohibited to planes except in an emergency. A Department of Commerce "Aerial Bulletin" in 1928 described the field as being 3,050 feet in length.

28. Mooser, *Works Program in San Francisco*, items 2170, 2174, and 4300, pp. 83 and 88; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 76–77. Historian Haller provided the extracts from Mooser's report.

29. Haller, *The Last Word*, p. 43; Dupuy et al., *Military Biography*. General Patrick, a graduate of West Point, had served in the Corps of Engineers until World War I. In France Pershing made him commander of the combined air service of the American Expeditionary Force. In 1921 he became chief of the Air Service. He campaigned successfully for the reorganization of the Air Service as the Air Corps in 1926. Apparently, General Pershing accompanied Patrick on this trip.

30. Brett and Emmons' military careers have already been outlined. Gerald Brant became a major general in World War II in charge of the Air Corps' Training Corps in 1944. Michael F. Davis, promoted to brigadier general in World War II, served as deputy commander of the 10th and 12th Air Forces, 1947–1950, retiring from the Air Force in 1950. Brig. Gen. Floyd Galloway transferred to the Air Force when it was established. No further infor-

mation has been gleaned for Major Muse. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 116–117; *Army Almanac; Webster's Military Biographies*.

31. Mondey, *Pictorial History*, p. 26; Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 68–69 and 75.

32. Mondey, *Pictorial History*, pp. 37–39; Maurer, *Aviation*, p. 299; Goldberg, *U.S. Air Force*, p. 39; Reuther, "Crissy Field," p. 5. Only Reuther stated that the aircraft was a B-10 bomber.

33. U.S. Department of Commerce, *Descriptions of Airports*, January 1, 1936, p. 26.

34. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. viii and 96–97; Chappell, *Collection of Historical Source Materials*, p. 277; Anon., "Section IV, History," undated, Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association; Voucher File, FY 1959–1960, Master Plans, PSF.

35. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 96 and 99; *The Star Presidian*, February 12 and July 29, 1960, and January 20, 1961.

36. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 98–99; Voucher Files 1973–1974 and Fiscal Year 1974, Master Plans, PSF.

37. Haller, *The Last Word*, pp. 103-111.

Chapter 20. World War II

1940 to 1945 were a tumultuous five years for the Presidio of San Francisco. In 1940, when war edged ever closer to America, army mobilization resulted in additional construction on the reservation. Fort Winfield Scott sprang to life as the headquarters for the coastal defense of Pacific coastal harbors. General DeWitt commanded both the Ninth Corps Area and the Fourth Army, which were responsible for the defense of the western United States. When Japan attacked, the Presidio became the headquarters of the Western Defense Command, which became a theater of operations. When Japan captured Attu and Kiska in the Aleutians, the Western Defense Command was responsible for the training and preparedness for battle of the 7th Infantry Division prior to its becoming the landing force of the U.S. Navy's North Pacific Force for the recapture of the islands. In the fall of 1941 the Presidio became the initial home for a military intelligence Japanese language school whose graduates contributed greatly to successful operations in the Pacific. Early in the war, the Western Defense Command became responsible for the controversial removal of Japanese-Americans from the coast to inland camps. While the threat of invasion faded after the naval Battle of Midway in 1942, the Presidio's several headquarters continued to have responsibility for the successful prosecution of the war effort until, finally, peace came in 1945. Another chapter had been added to the Presidio of San Francisco's long, rich, and varied history.

The Presidio and Fort Scott, 1940–1941

Following the war to end all wars, Americans turned their backs on Europe and the U.S. Senate rejected both the Treaty of Versailles and the League of Nations. By the mid-1930s, however, the Army had increased its strength slightly and had reorganized its command structure. Events elsewhere dramatized the instability of nations in both Europe and Asia. In 1931, less than 10 years after it withdrew from Siberia, Japan seized Manchuria. Italy invaded Ethiopia in 1935. A year later, Spain felt the wounds of civil war. Japan's ambitions became clear in 1937 when it invaded China. In 1938 Germany annexed Austria and it seized Czechoslovakia a year later. Then, in September 1939, Germany invaded Poland, bringing total war to Europe and the British and French empires. Large numbers of Japanese troops moved into French Indochina (Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia) in 1941. American neutrality, already severely eroded through aid to Great Britain, was shattered on December 7, 1941, when Japanese air power attacked the Hawaiian and Philippine islands.

Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt commanded the Ninth Corps Area, Fourth Army, and Western Defense Command from his headquarters at the Presidio of San Francisco, 1939-1943. *Presidio Museum Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

In December 1939, the War Department had ordered the newly promoted Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt to take command of the Ninth Corps Area and Fourth Army at the Presidio of San Francisco. Born in Nebraska in 1880, DeWitt entered the Army with the rank of 2d lieutenant in 1898, assigned to the infantry. His career followed the same path as for most young officers — three tours in the Philippines, then France in World War I. From 1930 to 1934 he served as the Army's quartermaster general, leaving that assignment with the rank of brigadier general. Major General DeWitt served as commandant of the Army War College in Washington, D.C. from 1937 to 1939.[1]

From his offices in the former cavalry barracks [35], DeWitt carried out his duties as commander of army ground and air forces in the western states. Although a paper organization at first, the Fourth Army became more and more an operational outfit in 1940. That spring the U.S. Army undertook "the first genuine corps and army training maneuvers in American military history." The exercise involved 70,000 troops. DeWitt led the Fourth Army on extensive

maneuvers at Fort Lewis, Washington, and Camp Ripley, Minnesota. The principal units involved included the 3d and 6th divisions of the Regular Army, and the 34th, 35th, 40th, and 41st divisions of the National Guard. Earlier, the 3d Division had sailed 2,000 miles in six transports off California practicing landing techniques and convoy regulations in association with the U.S. Navy.[2]

Congress greatly increased army appropriations. National Guardsmen were inducted into active duty in September 1940 and the Army called up the Organized Reserves for one year's active duty. The Selective Service and Training Act resulted in the nation's first peacetime draft. In October 1940 DeWitt's Fourth Army assumed command of ground forces in the western states, while his Ninth Corps Area became an administrative and service organization. He filled Fourth Army's staff positions with personnel largely from Ninth Corps Area headquarters. It appears that it did not take long for staff offices to occupy one of the new 250-man barracks, most likely current building 39.[3]

An inspector general undertook the required annual inspection of the Presidio in the summer of 1941. He noted that in the past year the Army's Construction Division had built a large number of "cantonment-type" buildings on the post. Even so, the 30th Infantry's brick barracks had become crowded. Worse, the 30th's training suffered because the regiment had to furnish soldiers for guard duty, police calls, post fatigue, and kitchen police in the growing establishment. He may not have known that the 30th Infantry soon would leave the Presidio to join its parent organization, the 3d Division, at Fort Lewis, Washington.

He spent considerable time checking out the golf course, noting that a civilian club operated the well-maintained, excellent 18-hole course. While civilians paid $13.12 a month to play, officers and their families paid only $4.40. Even this amount was excessive for junior officers, and the inspector urged that arrangements be made "so that all military may be entitled to the recreational facilities of the golf course upon payment of reasonable fees." He was reminded that higher headquarters had "established the policy that the use of the golf course be limited to officers."[4]

The School for Bakers and Cooks continued to produce skilled personnel. It was now one of 12 in the Army. Seventy-five soldiers composed a typical class and they studied such subjects as dietetics, sanitation, and quality food preparation. The Presidio produced 2,000 loaves of bread daily, sufficient for all the Bay Area posts. In summers the students operated messes at

Army installations in the Bay Area, April 1933, as the United States slowly emerged from the Great Depression, but with war clouds on distant horizons. *National Archives photograph.*

Fort Ord for the ROTC. A motorized field bakery company connected to the school could provide bread for 20,000 men.[5]

As the year 1940 progressed, only a small amount of new construction got underway. To the rear of the brick barracks [100], two machine-gun sheds [117 and 118] were constructed. Three wood-frame garages of four- and six-vehicle capacity [44, 47, and 48] were built to the rear of the buildings on Moraga Avenue in 1940, as was a small storage building [46]. Another five-vehicle garage [113] for noncommissioned officers was erected west of the brick barracks [102]. The quartermaster erected a small structure [108] for storage and an electrical shop west of the brick barracks [104]. Off Halleck Street, east of storehouse [223], a small flammable storage structure [224] was put up in 1940. Also at the main post a comfort station to the rear of the old branch post exchange at the terminus of the streetcar line earned its name. The mechanized army of 1940 required vehicle sheds and four of these (buildings 949, 950, 973, and 974 — demolished June 1996) were built west of Crissy Field.

A major construction project got underway at the Presidio on November 1, 1940. The construction quartermaster, Capt. J. H. Veal, described these mobilization-type buildings that became ubiquitous at military installations throughout the United States in World War II.[6] Five locations on the reservation were selected for the project: Area A — on the bay front between Marine Drive and Mason Street, east of Crissy Field; Area B — on the bay front between Marine Drive and Mason Street, west of Crissy Field; Area C — between Mason Street and the Golden Gate Bridge approach road (U.S. 101); Area D — west of Halleck Street and south of the Golden Gate Bridge approach road; and Area E — between Graham Street and Funston Avenue, facing on Moraga Avenue.

Together the buildings consisted of two bachelor officers' quarters, one with 15 rooms, the other with 25 rooms; 24 63-man barracks, two-story, balloon-frame[7]; four dayrooms; four 250-man mess halls; six single-story storehouses housing company administration; two post exchanges; two warehouses; and one administration building.

Area A contained 10 barracks, two dayrooms, administration building, post exchange, three storehouses (supply rooms and orderly rooms), and two mess halls built in 1940–1941. These buildings later received numbers between 232 and 262. None was extant in 1994. A few months later, the quartermaster made an addition of five barracks, two storerooms, a mess hall, and a recreation building east of Area A. These were numbered 271 through 278 (they are no longer extant). Eight more buildings were added to Area A in 1942. By the end of 1942 Letterman General Hospital took over all of Area A, and it became a part of Letterman's Crissy Field Annex.

In January 1945 the U.S. Army set aside four of the buildings in the addition to Area A as a prisoner- of-war compound (former buildings 273, 274, 275, and 276 — no longer extant). As of 1945, more than 300,000 Germans, 50,000 Italians, and 4,000 Japanese were held as prisoners of war in the continental United States and Hawaii. After the fall of Italy in 1943, Italian prisoners were declared to be "co-belligerent." They could not be released but the United States organized the majority of them into service units and employed them on military reservations. At San Francisco the 141st Italian Quartermaster Service Company, freed from the constraints of prisoner-of-war camps, took up duties at the Presidio of San Francisco.

Italian prisoners who remained "uncooperative" remained behind barbed wire. On January 4, 1945, 178 Italian prisoners of this class arrived at the Presidio for the purpose of furnishing

labor to Letterman General Hospital. The four buildings formed a compound 125 feet wide by 250 feet long. A 16-strand barbed wire fence 8 feet high enclosed the area. Buildings 273 and 276 served as barracks for the men. Building 274 became the prisoners' camp headquarters, supply room, and dayroom, while building 275 served as a kitchen and mess hall. The camp was organized along military lines. American personnel staffed the Headquarters Section and the Guard Section — three officers and 22 enlisted men. The prisoners' organization consisted of the Camp Overhead and Prisoner of War Labor — 174 [*sic*] men.

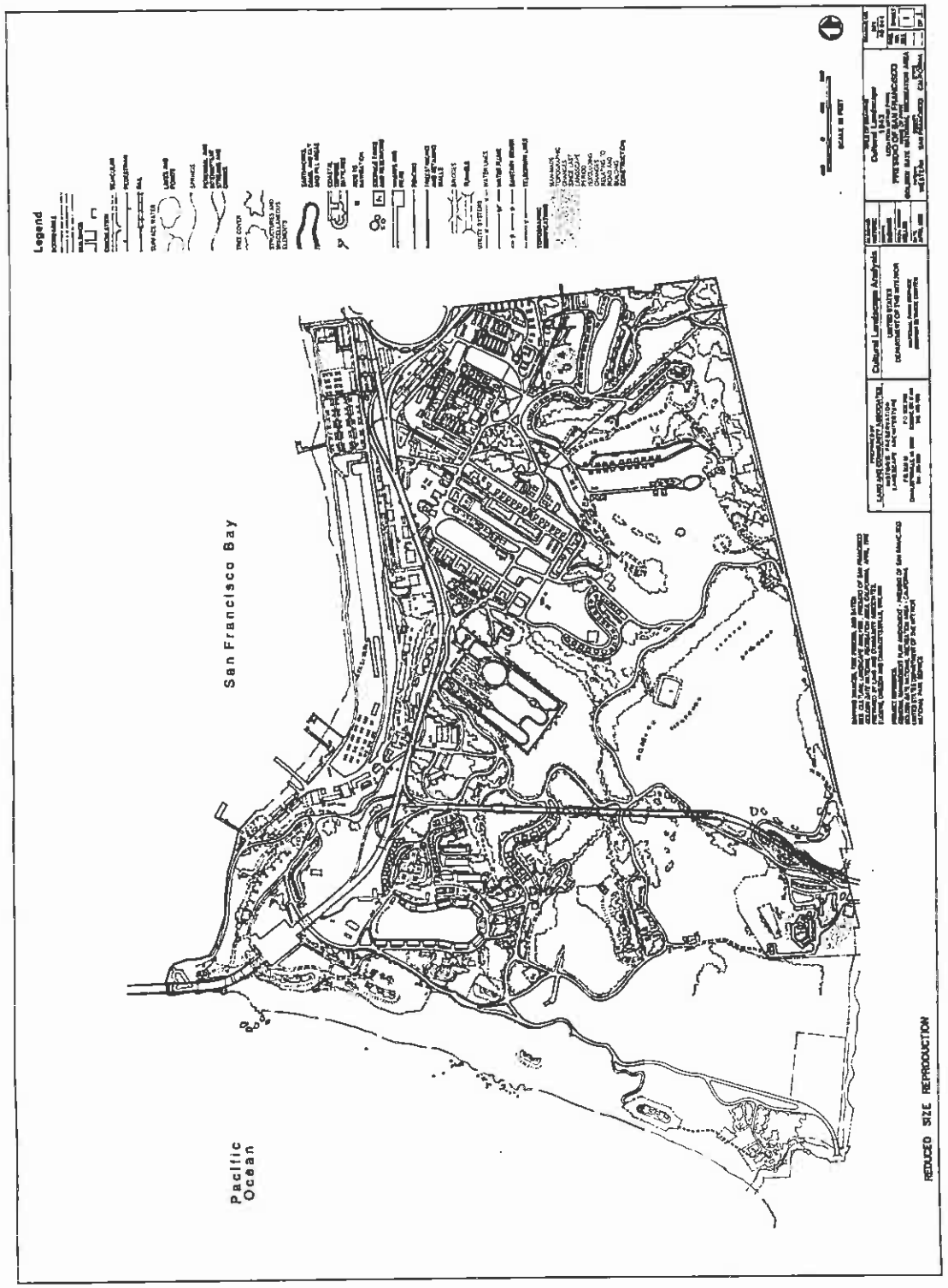
These Italian prisoners departed San Francisco on December 15, 1945, and on the same day 150 German prisoners of war occupied the compound. The Germans left the Presidio on June 21, 1946, for the New York Port of Embarkation. The Army inactivated the camp and sent its records to the Ninth Service Command, Fort Douglas, Utah. Only buildings 274 and 275 remained extant in 1994 (they are no longer extant today).[8]

Area B west of Crissy Field contained 10 barracks, two dayrooms, warehouse, post exchange, three storehouses (supply and orderly rooms), and two mess halls. Later numbered 901 through 919 (no longer extant), they too became a part of Letterman's Crissy Field Annex during the war. Toward the end of the war, they housed the Hospital Train Unit as well as Letterman troops.[9]

Captain Veal did not further describe the buildings in the other three areas. A map of the Presidio prepared in 1975 showed two barracks (former buildings 607 and 608 — no longer extant) for enlisted women in Area C and additional barracks for enlisted women in Area D. None of these buildings remain, both areas having been developed for other purposes. The two bachelor officers' quarters [40 and 41] remained standing in Area E in 1994.[10]

Veal reported the initial construction complete on February 1, 1941, at a total cost of $298,270, with a final payment made to the Meyer Construction Company, San Francisco, on March 10. A separate contract for painting the buildings called for gray color from the ground to the water table, including stairs, platforms, handrails, and doors; cream color to all other parts of the buildings, including sash, sash trim, and door trim.[11]

Also built in 1941 were three warehouses — 100 feet by 266 feet, 60 feet by 250 feet, and 60 feet by 195 feet; they stood in the Lower Presidio north of the railroad track. Later numbered



Presidio of San Francisco, 1943. *National Park Service.*

251 and 252 (two having been joined), they served as a commissary. The Army demolished them circa 1992.

Additional wartime construction included an additional administration building [37], a large, two-story, E-shaped building that served as an annex to Ninth Corps Area headquarters just to the east. Completed July 8, 1941, it cost $56,320. The post engineers area at the east end of the Lower Presidio acquired several buildings during the war: an administration building (280) in 1941; a shop building (282) in 1942; an electrical shop (284) in 1941; a paint and sign shop (285) in 1942; and a carpenter shop (288) and a shop building (290) both in 1943. None of these buildings are extant.[12]

Also in the Lower Presidio, in the vicinity of the Crissy Field runway, a fire station was erected in 1943. West of the U.S. Coast Guard Station engineers erected a wood-frame storehouse (former building 938 — no longer extant), also a small flammable storehouse (former building 976 — no longer extant) at the submarine mine depot. A mobilization-type barracks [3] erected next to the post hospital in 1942 served for physical examinations of incoming personnel. Still other construction included a pump house [311] at the main reservoir on Presidio Hill, an electrical substation [565] near the Lombard gate, and a tennis court [582] in the former East Cantonment. On Presidio Hill, too, the Army constructed Transmitter Station WVY [314] in March 1942. The two-story concrete building, measuring 34 feet by 100 feet with a 33-foot by 37-foot wing, cost $52,560.

In the fall of 1941 the American Red Cross built a permanent building [97] in which to conduct its general welfare services for enlisted men. The Spanish Colonial Revival facility, costing $15,000, contained offices, lecture room, and staff quarters. Red crosses embedded in the concrete chimney could be seen from all directions. The construction quartermaster described the structure as "an attractive red tiled roofed, one story white stucco building, with its deep revealed windows, shed-like type portico...ninety-one feet wide and forty-six feet deep."[13]

Perhaps the most outstanding architecture of wartime construction was found in two handsome quarters the engineers erected for general officers. Funded by the Golden Gate Bridge District as replacements for quarters destroyed during bridge construction, one quarters [1] stood on a knoll off Simonds Loop in the former East Cantonment area, and the second quarters [1332] was located in a secluded area near officers' row at Fort Winfield Scott. General DeWitt was the last commanding general to occupy the historic residence at Fort Mason. His

successor, Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons, became the first occupant of Quarters 1, while the commanding general of the Ninth Coast Artillery District occupied 1332. A garage [517] was erected adjacent to Emmons' residence.[14]

Considerable construction activity occurred at Fort Winfield Scott in 1941 and 1942. In the post's industrial area the Army erected a gas station [1221], a post exchange storehouse [1225], a post office [1237], a small office building [1239], a post exchange utility warehouse [1241], and three quartermaster storehouses [1242, 1243, and 1244]. Four four-vehicle garages [1246, 1247, 1248, and 1250] off Appleton Street were built for the use of noncommissioned officers; six additional garages [1301, 1303, 1309, 1321, 1325, and 1327] were constructed for officers living on Kobbe Avenue. A double tennis court [1333] was laid out next to the officers' club. Because of the increase in the garrison's strength a one-story, wood-frame, L-shaped structure [1347] was erected for quarters for bachelor officers, later for bachelor noncommissioned officers.

In the Coast Artillery industrial area near Dynamite Battery three structures were added in 1942: two ordnance repair shops (current building 1355 and former building 1357 — no longer extant) and a small boiler house [1359]. Northeast of Dynamite Battery an indoor shooting range occupied building [1369]. To the north of the post in the area first laid out as a drill field and, later, a cantonment in World War I, the quartermaster erected a theater [1387] and a chapel [1389], both mobilization-type buildings, in 1941. West of the chapel, a small building [1390], built at the same time, was said to be a nursery.[15] South of the post, in the vicinity of Battery McKinnon-Stotsenberg, a radio station [1444], radio transmitter building [1450], and a generator building [1451], built 1941–1943, completed wartime construction at the fort.[16]

Western Defense Command

When the Fourth Army assumed command of ground forces in October 1940, the organizations initially under Lt. Gen. John L. DeWitt's control were:

> IX Corps, Maj. Gen. Kenyon A. Joyce — the 3rd and 41st Divisions.
> III Corps, Maj. Gen. Walter K. Wilson — the 7th and 40th Divisions.
> Ninth Corps Artillery District, Brig. Gen. Henry T. Burgin — the Harbor Defenses of Puget Sound, Columbia River, San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Headquarters at Fort Winfield Scott.

In the summer of 1941, the U.S. Army again held maneuvers, this time nationwide. The first to begin was Fourth Army. Brig. Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell commanded the Red force (the 7th Division, which he had activated at Fort Ord) and attacked northward from Los Angeles. Two divisions, the Blue force, defended San Francisco. The "Battle of California" lasted five weeks and climaxed at the Hunter Liggett Military Reservation 120 miles south of Monterey. Fortunately for San Francisco, the Blue force won. By December 1941 the Fourth Army had completed plans for the defense of the west coast and Alaska.[17]

When Japan attacked Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941, General DeWitt put on a third hat when he took command of the Western Defense Command (WDC), one of four strategic areas into which the War Department had divided the United States. Four days later the Western Defense Command became a theater of operations inasmuch as a Japanese attack on the west coast appeared imminent. Under the Western Defense command DeWitt now commanded the Fourth Army, Ninth Corps Area, and the Second and Fourth Air Forces. Geographically, the command included California, Oregon, Washington, Nevada, Idaho, Arizona, Utah, Montana, and the territory of Alaska.[18]

General DeWitt activated the Western Defense Command immediately upon learning of the Japanese attack. The west coast was divided into geographical sectors and the Northern California Sector came under the commanding general of the 7th Division at Fort Ord. On May 1, 1942, Maj. Gen. Walter K. Wilson took command of the sector and established his command post at the Presidio. The Oregon-California state line became the northern boundary of the sector and the Santa Maria River marked the southern boundary.

A great deal of uncertainty marked by a deluge of false rumors overwhelmed the Western Defense Command in the early days of the war. On December 11, the Fourth Army notified General Stilwell, who was commanding the Southern California Sector, that the Japanese fleet was 164 miles off San Francisco and ordered a general alert. Two days later Stilwell learned that an air attack on Los Angeles was imminent. By the time Stilwell transferred to Washington on Christmas Day, he had learned to discount the "jitters" emanating from San Francisco.[19]

A senior quartermaster officer visited the Presidio in January 1942. He found the main problem concerning quartermaster affairs was the lack of personnel and the constant shifting of those soldiers so assigned. He said that the reservation had become a staging area as well as

Ninth Corps Area and Fourth Army headquarters still occupied barracks 35 on the eve of World War II. A large addition to the south end is barely discernible, but the radio station penthouse on the roof may be seen. Ground floor porches have been enclosed. View toward the south. *NPS photograph by Gordon Chappell, 1993.*

having a garrison. The officers did not know from day to day what units would arrive or depart and as a result had to operate on a 24-hour basis to issue food, clothing, and the like.[20]

Matters settled down and the Northern California Sector defined its mission as defending the area against enemy attack by land, sea, or air internally (antisabotage) or externally. It was responsible for the tactical protection of the forts and harbors and for the joint planning with the Twelfth Naval District. The initial plans called for observation posts, lookout stations, and beach patrols involving the Army, Navy, and Coast Guard, also for army motor reconnaissance patrols along coastal roads. Field artillery units took up positions to cover the most suitable landing beaches and 75mm guns covered gaps between Coast Artillery units. Mobile and semimobile Coast Artillery units augmented the Harbor Defenses of San Francisco and protected Drakes Bay, Monterey Bay, Esterro Bay, and San Luis Obispo Bay. Elements of no fewer than 11 armored and infantry divisions reinforced the North California Sector at various times.[21]

Duty at the isolated Coast Artillery fire control stations and searchlights for days on end with 12-hour tours of duty and little to break the monotony of watching, always on the alert, soon had a deleterious effect on morale. A Coast Artillery officer wrote, "After this process has been extended over the many months of constant field duty since Pearl Harbor, it frays a man's nerves. Quite understandably, morale takes a nose dive." To counter the negative effects of the grueling duties, the Coast Artillery at Fort Scott instigated a Special Training Program. Each week two batteries from Fort Scott's several subposts came to the post and for seven days enjoyed the luxuries of a regular barracks, good hot food, and not having to stand guard or pull fatigue details. The week involved close-order drill, bayonet practice, small arms target practice, athletics, infantry tactics, formal retreat parades, and running an obstacle course named "Little David" on Fort Scott's parade ground. On Saturday morning the men completed a 10-mile hike. The rest of the weekend was time out for relaxation with passes to the city. The Coast Artillery considered the training program to be a great success and a definite morale-builder. The men returned to their outposts and duty stations with a renewed esprit de corps.[22]

At the Presidio a mixture of combat and service units formed the garrison throughout the war years. The infantry and cavalry (motorized) elements provided sentries and guards for the reservation and defense plants in the San Francisco area. The service command units (SCU) provided their expertise to the whole sector:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, Northern California Sector, Pacific Coastal Frontier, April 20–November 6, 1942
- 53d Infantry Regiment, May 1–June 22, 1942
- 184th Infantry Regiment, June 15, 1942–January 20, 1943
- 122d Cavalry Reconnaissance Troop, June 21, 1944–August 28, 1945
- Band, 53d Infantry Regiment, May 1–July 1, 1942
- Station Complement SCU 1927
  - SCU 1900, Headquarters, Ninth Service Command Detachment
    - Archives Section, Adjutant General
    - Advance Echelon, Judge Advocate
    - Ninth Service Command Library Depot
    - Signal Corps Signal Officer
    - Signal Corps Veterinarian
  - SCU 1991, Signal Maintenance and Construction

SCU 1939, Permanent Boards
Area Civilian Personnel Unit
Headquarters, Bakers and Cooks School (SCU 1990)
    Sub-school, Bakers and Cooks
Bomb Reconnaissance and Reporting School
Central Dental Laboratory
San Francisco National Cemetery Detachment
Golden Gate National Cemetery Detachment
Post Photographic Library
Quartermaster Laundry Detachment (1148 Harrison Street)
Signal Corps Photographic Library
Headquarters, Western Defense Command
SCU 1960 Hospital Train unit
Training Film Center Library
Vicinity Maintenance Engineer
Office of the Provost Marshal General (The Japanese-American Branch)
64th Ordnance Bomb Disposal Squad
121st Ordnance Maintenance Company
141st Italian Quartermaster Service Company

In 1941 Brig. Gen. Edward A. Stockton, Jr., commanded the Harbor Defenses of San Francisco with his headquarters at Fort Winfield Scott. He held responsibility for the harbor defenses at Forts Scott, Baker, Barry, Miley, Funston, and Cronkhite. Under his command were Col. Karl F. Baldwin commander of the 6th Coast Artillery Regiment and Col. F. H. Holden commanding the 2d Battalion, 18th Coast Artillery Regiment, both stationed at Fort Winfield Scott. (The batteries of both units were distributed among the coastal forts.) During the weeks following Pearl Harbor many reports came in of enemy ships and submarines off San Francisco. The official history later noted that "none of these reports were verified from other sources although the information appeared to be very positive at the time."

Aerial view of Fort Winfield Scott, February 25, 1942, six weeks after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The Harbor Defense Command Post on top of old Battery Dynamite in the center of the photograph had already been camouflaged, but Batteries Saffold to the left, Crosby at the upper left, and one gun of Godfrey at the upper right had not yet received camouflage. Note, too, the foxholes on the parade ground and drill field. *Kenneth Cooper, Jr. Collection, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, NPS.*

Military organizations assigned to Fort Winfield Scott during World War II included:

Station Complement SCU 1932 (Harbor Defenses of San Francisco)

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, Harbor Defenses of San Francisco, May 1, 1942–August 31, 1945, assigned to the Harbor Entrance Control Post (Army)

6th Coast Artillery Regiment (HD) (Type C), May 1, 1942–October 18, 1944 (Headquarters and Headquarters Battery; Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion; Batteries A, B, D, and N)

6th Coast Artillery Battalion, October 18, 1944–August 31, 1945

Batteries L and M, 6th Coast Artillery, May 1, 1942–May 4, 1944

Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 18th Coast Artillery Regiment, October 4, 1943–May 5, 1944

67th Coast Artillery Battalion, October 18, 1944–September 15, 1945 (Headquarters Detachment and Battery B)

130th Coast Artillery Battalion (AA) (Gun) (5M), May 1, 1942–May 4, 1994 (Headquarters Battery, Antiaircraft Command Post)

174th Coast Artillery Battalion, October 18, 1944–August 31, 1945 (Battery A)

266th Separate Coast Artillery Battalion, April 20, 1942–November 6, 1942

Battery A, Harbor Defenses of San Francisco, October 18, 1944–August 31, 1945

Battery G, 48th Coast Artillery, May 7–November 6, 1942

U.S. Army Mine Planter *Gen. Samuel M. Mills*, November 15, 1942–November 23, 1942

U.S. Army Mine Planter *Lt. Col. Ellery W. Niles*, May 1, 1942–November 23, 1942

4th Coast Artillery Mine Planter (CAMP) Battery, November 23, 1942–August 31, 1945

11th CAMP Battery, November 23, 1942–?

21st CAMP Battery, July 10, 1943–August 31, 1945

Band, 6th Coast Artillery Regiment, May 1, 1942–May 21, 1944

72d Army Ground Forces Band, May 24, 1944–November 27, 1944.[23]

On December 18, 1942, the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington established two Joint Operations Centers within the Western Defense Command:

1. At San Diego composed of the Western Defense Command, Southern California Sector, Fourth Air Force, Western Sea Frontier, and Eleventh Naval District.

2. At San Francisco consisting of the Western Defense Command, Northern California Sector, Fourth Air Force, Western Sea Frontier, and Twelfth Naval District. This San Francisco Joint Operations Center was located in the federal office building, with an alternate location at Fourth Air Force headquarters, 180 New Montgomery Street. The center had three sections that operated 24 hours a day: Army Ground Section, Army Air Section, and Navy Section.

The Harbor Defenses of San Francisco included the forts and other military installations over a 50-mile range from Point Reyes to Pillar Point. Forts Baker, Barry, Cronkhite, Miley, and Funston all were subposts under Fort Winfield Scott. Brigadier General Stockton was transferred from Fort Scott in February 1942 and was succeeded by Brig. Gen. Ralph E. Haines. In

February 1944 Haines succeeded Maj. Gen. Wilson as commander of the Northern California Sector. Harbor Defenses of San Francisco's mission involved protecting harbor facilities and shipping in San Francisco harbor from enemy naval gunfire, ensuring freedom of movement to friendly shipping in entering or leaving the harbor, denying to enemy ships access to the harbor, and supporting the defense against landing attacks. In December 1941 two infantry battalions, one on either side of the Golden Gate, augmented the beach defenses by constructing entanglements, slit trenches, and clearing fields of fire for automatic weapons.

Extremely bad weather in January and February 1942 delayed the complete installation of the submarine mine project. Heavy seas grounded and sank mine vessel L-74. The alert status of the defenses was intensified prior to the Battle of Midway, June 1942, a critical point in the war and when an invasion of Alaska was anticipated. A month later a Navy blimp reported an enemy mine-laying submarine at the west end of the main channel. Sweeping operations closed the channel for five hours. This channel was closed again in 1943 when SS *Manual Kapanosa* loaded with dynamite, sank in that area.

In the early months of the war the Western Defense Command took active measures against sabotage at all installations. In the end, no sabotage activities occurred, although a few cases of malicious mischief were reported.

Late in 1944 Japan began a new offensive against North America by launching balloon-borne incendiaries and antipersonnel bombs from Japan, carried by wind currents to the United States and Canada. An American patrol boat spotted the first evidence — a balloon having a Japanese radio transmitter — off San Pedro, California, in November. The United States censored all mention of this new weapon to prevent panic and to keep Japan ignorant of the success of its project. Not until May 1945 when a woman and five children were killed by a balloon bomb in Lakeview, Oregon, did the government publicize the weapon. Of the 285 balloon incidents in the United States and Canada, 20 occurred in California.[24]

During the Battle of Midway in May 1942, a separate Japanese task force occupied Alaska's Aleutian islands of Attu and Kiska. Having broken Japanese codes, the Western Defense Command was alert to these attacks. At that time no American troops occupied Attu and only the U.S. Navy's 10-man weather station had established itself on Kiska. The 4th Infantry Regiment guarded the Alaskan mainland. For the next year the Western Defense Command directed its attention to the recovery of the two Aleutian islands and the overall defenses of

Alaska. While the battle for Attu (May 1943) was a U.S. Navy operation, the Western Defense Command had been responsible for the training and preparedness of the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Ord, the principal landing force in the recapture of the two islands. When the battle for Attu became bogged down, Alaska's 4th Infantry Regiment was thrown into the awesome fray. By May 30 the U.S. Army had secured Attu. In August a combined U.S.-Canadian force regained Kiska, which the Japanese had evacuated. This Aleutian campaign, the only World War II battle on the North American continent, was the Western Defense Command's principal army and army air corps combat operation during the war.[25]

The west coast, California particularly, had a long history of anti-Japanese activity. In 1907 the United States restricted Japanese immigration (Gentlemen's Agreement), and prohibited it entirely in 1924. In 1913 California and other states prohibited Japanese immigrants from owning land. Although Japan had favored the Allies during World War I for its own imperial designs, anti-Japanese sentiment in California grew increasingly shrill in the post-war years. Then the smashing success of the Japanese surprise attack on the Pacific fleet and Oahu's airfields in December caused the hatred to burst into flame.

Immediately after the attack, Frank Knox, the U.S. Secretary of the Navy, visited Hawaii to assess the damage. Upon his return to the mainland Knox announced that the Japanese population in Hawaii had given aid and support to the enemy through sabotage and fifth-column activity. Whatever Knox's reasons for making this statement, history has proven it a falsehood. At that time, however, it was further exaggerated by Californian politicians and the press. General DeWitt, responsible for security within the Western Defense Command, reached the conclusion that ethnic Japanese were a security risk. In February 1942 he wrote to Secretary of War Henry L. Stimson recommending their exclusion from the west coast: "The Japanese race is an enemy race and while many second and third generation Japanese born on United States soil, possessed of United States citizenship, have become 'Americanized,' the racial strains are undiluted." He considered the 112,000 persons of Japanese descent on the west coast to be potential enemies, "The very fact that no sabotage has taken place to date is a disturbing and confirming indication that such action will be taken."[26]

Stimson, apparently agreeing with DeWitt's conclusions, recommended to President Franklin D. Roosevelt that the Japanese be excluded from the west coast. Roosevelt signed Executive Order 9066 on February 19, 1942, compelling both American citizens and alien residents of Japanese ancestry to leave the Pacific Slope because of military necessity in wartime. General

DeWitt signed Public Proclamation No. 1 on March 2, creating military areas and zones on the coast from which people might be excluded. On March 24 another proclamation imposed a curfew on these people. The official history of the Western Defense Command recorded that DeWitt's headquarters ordered and carried out the evacuation of persons of Japanese ancestry over the period April 2–October 30, 1942.

The U.S. Army carried out the evacuation in stages:

1. Evacuation from Military Area 1 from homes to assembly centers.
2. Evacuation from Military Area 1 from homes to War Relocation Authority Projects (camps in interior United States).
3. Evacuation from Military Area 2 from homes to War Relocation Authority Projects.
4. Evacuation from Assembly Centers to War Relocation Authority Projects.[27]

Before he was transferred from the Presidio of San Francisco to become commandant of the Army and Navy War College in 1943, General DeWitt, in an "off-the-record" news conference, voiced his concern about the War Department enlisting Nisei soldiers: "the Japanese Government finding out we are bringing these men in, it is the ideal place to infiltrate men in uniform...[a] Jap is a Jap. The War Department says that a Jap-American soldier is not a Jap; he is American....I have the Jap situation to take care of and I'm going to do it."[28] Time would prove that DeWitt's conclusions concerning Japanese-Americans were prejudiced by the times and the place. As he wrote, Japanese- American soldiers at the Presidio prepared to serve the nation with outstanding success in military intelligence in the war in the Pacific. Ironically, while the general directed the evacuation of Japanese-Americans from their homes, Nisei would soon demonstrate the magnificence of the Japanese-American soldier's combat record in Europe.

Until his departure DeWitt remained adamant against the return of any Japanese-Americans to the west coast. Not so his successor, Lt. Gen. Delos C. Emmons. In 1944 Emmons began allowing the return of a limited number of Japanese to the coastal states. To prevent Californians exacting demands or creating violence against the returnees, the commander of the Northern California Sector was directed to take precautions and was given a battalion of military police to help keep order.[29]

Just after General DeWitt's return to the east coast, the *Army and Navy Journal* announced that none other than Secretary of the Navy Frank Knox had awarded him the Distinguished

Service Medal for exceptionally meritorious and distinguished service as commanding general of the Western Defense Command.[30]

Despite wartime tribulations, military life at the Presidio retained the amenities of garrison society. In 1943 the *Army and Navy Journal* reported that Brig. Gen. and Mrs. Charles Kiel, Fourth Air Force, held a reception in the historic officers' club to celebrate their 24th wedding anniversary and to announce the engagement of their daughter to an army officer. On another occasion the *Journal* reported that the Stewart Hotel on Geary Street had rooms with baths from $2.50 to $3.50 for one person with a 10 percent discount for Army and Navy. The paper also carried advertisements for The Clift and the Plaza hotels and Kit Carson's restaurant at Geary and Mason.[31]

In 1943 the Presidio opened its first banking facility at the main post. It began as a subagency of the Marina office of the American Trust Company. Shortly after the war it changed its name to an office of the American Trust Company. In 1960 the Wells Fargo Bank merged with the American Trust, and two years later the Presidio facility became the Wells Fargo Bank. Other banks and two credit unions followed.

Sometime early in the war Fort Winfield Scott's buildings acquired a painting project called the "camouflage tone-down." No other description of this change of colors of the fort's white structures has been found. In 1945 the Western Defense Command established a War Dog Reception and Training Center, not on the Presidio reservation, but at San Carlos south of San Francisco.[32]

With the defeat of the Japanese navy at the Battle of Midway in June 1942 and the elimination of the Japanese from the Aleutians in August 1943, the War Department terminated the Western Defense Command's status as a theater of operations in October 1943. With the departure of Emmons for Alaska, Maj. Gen. Charles H. Bonesteel took command of the Western Defense Command in June 1944. In January 1944 the War and Navy departments announced that the coastal defense installations would be reduced in strength in order to send those personnel to overseas stations. Coast Artillerymen now applied their skills to heavy artillery on the battlefields and to antiaircraft artillery. Another sign of the changing times was the sale of 510 army horses on the auction block at the South San Francisco stockyard in March.[33]

Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS)

In the summer of 1941 an army officer, Maj. Carlisle C. Dusenbury, a former student of the Japanese language, proposed that the military enlist first generation Japanese-American (Nisei) soldiers in intelligence operations. He and Col. Wallace Moore, whose parents had lived in Japan, together planned the organization of a school to teach Japanese military terminology. Because so many Nisei lived on the west coast and already some 5,000 were in the Army, they recommended that the Presidio of San Francisco be the location of the school. While General DeWitt's opinion of such an institution under his command has not been determined, the War Department directed the school's establishment in August, provided it with a $2,000 budget, and selected Lt. Col. John Weckerling to supervise it. Weckerling arrived at the Presidio from Panama in August and began the detailed planning.[34]

Weckerling set out to select those Nisei fluent in Japanese to serve as instructors. A survey of 3,700 Nisei, however, showed that only 3 percent were accomplished linguists. It became apparent that Japanese-Americans who had attended school in Japan, "Kibei," would make the best instructors (and students) although the Army tended to distrust the group. Nevertheless, they soon proved their worth. Pfc. (later Major) John F. Aiso, who, though he was discovered in a motor pool maintenance battalion, had a doctoral degree from Harvard University, became the chief instructor. Pfc (later, Lieutenant) Arthur Kaneko, a Sansei or second-generation Japanese-American, also became an instructor. Two civilians, Akira Oshida of Berkeley, and Shigeya Kihara of Oakland, rounded out the initial teaching staff. These four men prepared the textbooks and classroom exercises, while recruiting continued for the first class of students.[35]

Gene M. Uratsu described his enlisting in that first class. Assigned to the 40th Infantry Division at Camp Roberts, California, he received orders to report to division headquarters. There a captain interviewed the very nervous soldier asking him to translate from a Japanese-language book. The captain then warned Uratsu not to discuss the meeting with anyone. In October 1941 he arrived at the Presidio and was directed to report to building 640 (current building number), a former hangar at Crissy Field.[36]

Building 640 had been erected as an air mail hangar in the early 1920s. Despite its having been remodeled into a barracks for college students' ROTC summer camp in 1928, it had become dilapidated by the time the student-soldiers assembled for classes on November 1, 1941. Now

The Fourth Army Military Intelligence Service Language School trained Americans of Japanese ancestry in military Japanese so they could serve as interpreters and intelligence personnel (G-2) in the Pacific Theater, World War II. The school was organized and in training before the American entry into World War II. After the Japanese attack on Hawaii the school moved to Minnesota, and ultimately to Fort Snelling. *Sixth Army Audio-Visual Office, Presidio of San Francisco.*

the building served as faculty and staff offices, classrooms, and living quarters. Wooden horses and planks formed desks. Discarded theater seats served as chairs. Bunks in the sleeping quarters stood three tiers high. One bright spot was the excellent food prepared by the Presidio's Bakers and Cooks School.[37]

The 60 students found themselves assigned to one of four classes depending on their proficiency in the Japanese language. Two of the men were Caucasians, all the others, were Japanese-Americans. Subjects included the organization of Japan's armed forces, military technology including weapons, Japanese military terminology, and so forth. At one point General DeWitt visited the school. He told one of the students to let him know if there was anything he needed.

Six weeks after opening day, a Japanese task force attacked Pearl Harbor. The students found the following weeks to be a time of confusion. Instruction became intensified and the one-year course was reduced to six months. Many Nisei in the Army were discharged. Because of the intense anti-Japanese attitude in California, students going to town had to go in pairs and to wear their army uniforms.[38]

Toward the end of the six months, DeWitt wanted Japanese-speaking Weckerling as his full-time intelligence chief (G-2) and Capt. Kai E. Rasmussen, also a former military attaché in Tokyo, took command of the school, a position he retained until 1946. By the time the first class graduated the number of instructors had increased to eight. Besides the commandant, an adjutant, and three noncommissioned officers completed the administrative staff. Of the 60 original students, 43 graduated successfully (two of whom had already gone overseas because of their language proficiency). One of these, Masanori Minamoto, meeting with distrust, found himself driving a truck. Not until the battle for Guadalcanal did the Army learn to appreciate his considerable contributions on the battlefield. The two Caucasians received commissions as officers but the Nisei remained enlisted men for the time being. Ten members of the class, all Kibei Nisei, were retained by the school to teach future classes. All the others went to the Pacific Theater of Operations, six of them to Alaska where the Japanese had seized Attu and Kiska islands and five to the Southwest Pacific where General MacArthur waged a campaign on New Guinea. Still others were transferred to Fiji and Australia.[39] Members of the first class graduating from the Japanese language school, and their respective assignments, are listed below.

Graduates of the First Class, May 1942
Marasu Ariyasu. To New Caledonia
James Fujimura. To Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines
William Hirashima. To Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines, Japan
Yoshio Hotta. To Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then Attu
Gary Kadani. To Australia, the Philippines, Japan
Arthur Kaneko. Instructor in United States. To Tokyo in 1945
David Kato. To Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines
Kazuo Kawaguchi. To Australia, New Guinea
Iwao Kawashiri. To New Caledonia, the Philippines
Kazuo Kozaki. Instructor in United States, then Australia, New Guinea, Japan. Purple Heart and first Nisei to win Silver Star
Tadashi Kubo & Takashi Kubo. Brothers. To Fiji, Guadalcanal
Isao Kusuda. To New Caledonia, Guadalcanal
Paul Kuyama. To Australia, the Philippines, Japan
Joe Y. Masuda. Instructor in United States, then Japan

M. Matsumoto. To Australia, the Philippines
James Matsumura. Instructor in United States, then to Washington, D.C.
Masami Mayeda. To Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then Attu
Masanori Minamoto. To Tonga before graduation, then Guadalcanal, the Philippines, Japan
Yoshio Mijaoi. With Headquarters Detachment, Camp Savage, Minnesota
Tateshi Miyasaki. To Tonga, Guadalcanal, China
Mac Nagata. To New Caledonia, Guadalcanal
Ichiro Nishida. Instructor in United States
William Nishikawa. To Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then Attu
Morio Nishita. Instructor in United States
Fred Nishitsuji. To Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines
Yoshi Noritake. To New Caledonia
Jack Ohashi. With Headquarters Detachment, Camp Savage, Minnesota
Hiromi Oyama. To Australia, the Philippines, Japan
Kei Kiyoshi Sakamoto. To Bora Bora, Guadalcanal, Australia, the Philippines, Japan
Thomas Sakamoto. Instructor in United States, then Australia, Admiralty Islands, the Philippines, Japan. He was on board USS *Missouri* for the Japanese surrender ceremony.
Ryoichi Shinoda. Instructor in United States
Sam Sugemoto. To Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then Attu
Hideo Suyehiro. To Dutch Harbor, Alaska, then Attu
George Taketa. To Australia
James Tanizawa. Instructor in United States
Hideo Tsuyuki. Hospitalized. To Australia 1943, then New Guinea, Hollandia, the Phillipines
Gene Uratsu. Instructor in United States, then Australia, New Guinea,the Philippines, Japan
Steve Yamamoto. To Australia, New Guinea, the Philippines, Japan. Silver Star in the Philippines
Shigeru Yamashita. To New Caledonia, Guadalcanal
E. David Swift. To Australia
Dr. John A. Burden. To Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands, China.[40]

Even before the class graduated, the Western Defense command had begun the removal of Americans of Japanese ancestry from the west coast. The Army determined that the school, too, should move and in May, Washington deactivated the Fourth Army Intelligence School. Rasmussen and the staff transferred to Camp Savage, Minnesota. The War Department placed the new school, the Military Intelligence Service Language School (MISLS), directly under itself. Camp Savage proving inadequate, the school moved to Fort Snelling near St. Paul.[41]

In 1944 women from the Womens' Army Corps became students at the Fort Snelling school. The MISLS graduated its last class on June 8, 1946. By that time some 6,000 graduates were serving in the U.S. Army, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Corps, and with America's allies. Duty assignments for the graduates included the Joint Intelligence Center, Pacific Ocean Area, Hawaii; the Allied Intelligence and Translation Service at Southwest Pacific Area Headquarters, Brisbane, Australia; the South East Asia Translator and Interrogator Center headquartered at New Delhi, India; the China-Burma-India theater; Far Eastern Air Forces; and the Aleutian campaign. MISLS graduates translated the Japanese battle plans for the great naval battle off the Philippines, including San Bernardino Strait. They participated in the battles for Guadalcanal, Tarawa, Makin Atoll, Attu, Kwajalein, Enewetak, Saipan, Tinian, Guam, Peleliu, Iwo Jima, and Okinawa. After Japan's surrender, MISLS graduates served as translators and interrogators at the war crimes trials and in the Army of Occupation's civil affairs branch. Nisei soldiers translated a document found on Guadalcanal that listed all of the imperial naval ships and their call signs and code names.

On Okinawa, Nisei linguists interpreted a Japanese map that identified all the enemy artillery positions on the island. On Iwo Jima, Terry Takeshi Doi stripped naked to show he had no weapons and entered caves yelling to the Japanese to surrender or be sealed up forever. He won the Silver Star. When Sgt. Frank Hachiya parachuted behind enemy lines in the Philippines, U.S. troops accidentally killed him. Thomas Sakamoto went overseas to General MacArthur's headquarters in Brisbane, Australia. When he volunteered for combat duty, he landed on Los Negros Island in the Admiralties in early 1944. Assigned to the brigade intelligence officer, Sakamoto translated enemy documents under difficult conditions. He translated the Japanese commander's attack order just prior to a major assault on American positions on the beachhead. Because of Sakamoto's warning, the Americans were prepared when the attack came and successfully warded off the Japanese in three days of intensive combat. At the conclusion of the battle, he attempted to persuade the Japanese commander to surrender, but without success. The Army awarded Sakamoto the Bronze Star for his contribution to the successful occupation of the Admiralty Islands.

Although the U.S. Marine Corps apparently did not maintain many records on Military Intelligence Service troops assigned to it, one document has survived from the capture of Kwajalein Atoll in 1944. An American intelligence observer praised the work of the Nisei interpreters, stating they stayed on duty 24 hours a day, dealing with prisoners of war and

translating enemy documents. He recommended that in future operations their number be increased and they each have two armed guards because of the danger of being shot mistakenly.[42]

Not all incidents involved the seriousness of war. On Okinawa Tommy Hamada accidentally discharged his rifle and creased Toshimi Yamada's buttocks with the bullet. Yamada demanded a Purple Heart for his wound. When the medics denied the medal saying that a wound had to be the result of Japanese action, Yamada said, pointing at Tommy, "Well what the hell do you call that guy?"[43]

Although the U.S. government did not release the records of Nisei in the Military Intelligence Service until 1972, the generals learned to value their work long before then. General Stilwell wrote, "They bought an awful hunk of America with their blood." Brig. Gen. Frank Merrill, referring to Burma, said, "As for the value of the Nisei, I couldn't have gotten along without them." Maj. Gen. Charles Willoughby, MacArthur's intelligence chief, said that the work of the Military Intelligence Service Nisei in the Pacific shortened the war by two years.[44]

Following the war the Military Intelligence Service Language School moved from Fort Snelling to the Presidio of Monterey where it was renamed the U.S. Army Language School. Then, in 1963, it was reorganized and became the Defense Language Institute. Twenty-five languages formed the curriculum. In 1980 the Defense Department honored three Military Intelligence Service Nisei by dedicating three buildings to their memory: T/Sgt. Yukitaka Terry Nizutari, Honolulu; T/3 Frank Tadakuzu Hachiya, Hood River, Oregon; and Sgt. George Ichiro Nakamura, Santa Cruz, California. Thus did the Defense Language Institute at the Presidio of Monterey have its origins in Hangar 640 [640] at Crissy Field, the Presidio of San Francisco.[45]

On April 24, 1945, as the war in Europe neared its end, allied representatives met at San Francisco to adopt a United Nations Charter and to create a permanent United Nations organization. On May 7 the German High Command surrendered unconditionally to Allied forces. Two weeks later, the U.S. Army issued an invitation to foreign military officers at San Francisco to a reception at the Presidio's historic officers' club, where Maj. Gen. Henry Conger Pratt led the Western Defense Command:

The Asst. Sect. of War
The Hon. John J. McCloy
The Members of the U.S. Army Advisory Group
to the U.S. Delegation to the
United Nations Conference on International Organization

and

Maj. Gen. H. Conger Pratt
CG Western Defense Command
Request the Pleasure of the Company of

_____

at a Reception in Honor of the Officers of the
Army, Navy, and Air Forces of the Nations Participating
in the United Nations Conference on International
Organization

at

The Officers' Club
The Presidio of San Francisco
on
May 22, 1945
6–8 P.M.[46]

On June 22, 1945, the U.S. Tenth Army completed the capture of Okinawa. An American B-29, *Enola Gay*, dropped an atomic bomb on the Japanese city of Hiroshima on August 6. Russia declared war on Japan on August 8. B-29 *Bock's Car* dropped a second atomic bomb on Nagasaki on August 9. And on August 14, Japan accepted the Allied unconditional surrender terms. World War II had ended.

During the war in the Pacific the Sixth Army under the command of Gen. Walter E. Krueger had participated in the battles for New Guinea, Bismark Archipelago, and Luzon and Leyte in the Philippine Islands. When Japan surrendered, Krueger led his army in the occupation of Japan from August 1945 to January 26, 1946, when the Sixth Army was inactivated. At San Francisco, Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, fresh from commanding the Tenth Army on Okinawa and serving as the military governor of the Ryukyu Islands, arrived at the Presidio in June 1945 to take over the Western Defense Command. In February 1946 the Western Defense Command was inactivated and early the following month Stilwell took command of the reactivated Sixth U.S. Army with his headquarters at the Presidio.[47]

Chapter 20 Notes:

1. War Department, General Orders 10, December 5, 1939; *Webster's Military Biographies.*

2. Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 418.

3. *Ibid* 419–420; Jack B. Beardwood, *History of the Fourth Army*. U.S. Army Ground Forces Study 18 (Historical Section, Army Ground Forces, 1946), p. 2.

4. H. W. James, Annual Inspection, Fiscal Year 1941, GCGF 1941, OQMG, RG 92, NA, and accompanying papers.

5. WPA, "The Army at the Golden Gate," p. 71, in Chappell, *Collection of Historical Materials*, p. 275.

6. J. H. Veal, October 28, 1941, Completion Report on Temporary Housing at the Presidio, Completion Reports, PSF, OCE, RG 77, NA. By May 1940 the U.S. Army had prepared 300 standard plans for this type of construction — for barracks, mess halls, storehouses, post exchanges, chapels, theaters, etc. The evolution of these "700 series drawings" is discussed in D. Colt Denfeld, "How World War II Bases Were Built Fast — and Good," *Periodical Journal of the Council on America's Military Past (April 1991), pp. 24–31.*

7. A system of framing a wooden building; all vertical structural elements of the exterior bearing walls and partitions consist of single studs which extend the full height of the frame, from the top of the soleplate to the roof plate; all floor joists are fastened by nails to studs.

8. Letterman General Hospital, Annual Reports, 1945–1946; Arnold P. Krammer, "German Prisoners of War in the United States," *Military Affairs*, 40:68–72; *Army and Navy Journal*, September 15, 1945. San Franciscan Eugene De Martini describes his experiences as a lad building friendships with the Italians of the 141st Service Company at the Presidio. De Martini, "Italian Prisoners of War In America, 1942–1946," *Communiqué* (Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association, Fall 1992), p. 3. During World War II there were 75 Italian Service organizations and 15 prisoner-of-war camps in the western states. Ninth Service Command...Station List, February 1, 1945.

9. Letterman's adaptive use of the structures in Areas A and B during the war is discussed in Chapter 11, Letterman General Hospital.

10. The barracks in Areas C and D would not have housed women soldiers until 1942 when the first women enlisted. The Women's Army Corps (WAC) did not gain full legal military status until 1943.

11. J. H. Veal, Completion Report, October 28, 1941, OCE, RG 77, NA. The structures added later to Area A, included two portions of a covered corridor (former buildings 249 and 250 — no longer extant) that connected the buildings when the area served as an annex to Letterman.

12. All military construction passed from the Quartermaster Corps to the Corps of Engineers in December 1941, no doubt causing this construction in the post engineers' area.

13. Zone Construction Quartermaster, Public Relations Release, October 27, 1941; Harrison *Physical History Report*, vol. 3. Harrison describes the building as "a handsome little hacienda."

14. NPS, *Presidio of San Francisco, National Register of Historic Places, Registration Forms* (1993), p. 7–166.

15. This building probably had other uses after December 7, 1941.

16. NPS, National Register, Registration Forms: *The Star Presidian*, September 12, 1958.

17. Barbara W. Tuchman, *Stilwell and the American Experience in China, 1911–45* (New York: Macmillan, 1971), p. 225; Beardwood, *Fourth Army*, pp. 2–3. Ninth Corps Area and IX Corps should not be confused. Ninth Corps Area was a geographical command. IX Corps was a field force of combat soldiers.

18. Ninth Corps Area headquarters moved to Fort Douglas, Utah, in April 1942, where it became the Ninth Service Command, administering and supplying the Western Defense Command (WDC) areas, including the Presidio of San Francisco. In 1943, about the time the WDC ceased to be a theater of operations, the Fourth Army headquarters separated from the WDC and moved to San Jose, CA. In January 1944 it moved to Fort Sam Houston,

Texas, where it trained major units for overseas combat duty. Stewart and Erwin, p. 73; Beardwood, *Fourth Army*, pp. 4–6; Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association, "Organization of the U.S. Army in California and the West."

19. Tuchman, *Stilwell*, p. 231. During the war the Japanese made eight attacks on allied shipping off the Northern California Sector. The nearest to San Francisco was about 100 miles, WDC, "Historical Record," p. 42. Illustrative of the confusion and uncertainties of those first days after the attack are the reminiscences of a National Guard captain whose unit had arrived at San Francisco on a training mission just before the Japanese air raid. In the days following, his battery had the task of guarding the Golden Gate Bridge. He established battery headquarters at either Battery Lancaster or Battery Cranston. His battery was supposed to be armed with 37mm antiaircraft and .50 caliber machine guns, but could muster only the lighter 30 caliber machine guns. Harry Freeman, formerly a captain commanding Battery F, 216th [Minnesota] Regiment, CAC, interview, January 15, 1994, with Brett Bankie, NPS. A more graphic account of the situation in San Francisco has been captured by Richard R. Lingeman, *Don't You Know There's a War On?* (New York: G.P. Putnam's Sons, 1970), pp. 25–27.

20. D. H. Cowles, January 19, 1942, to quartermaster general, GCGF, OQMG, RG 92, NA.

21. U.S. Army, Western Defense Command, "Historical Record — Northern California Sector...1 May 1942–September 1945," microfilm, Library of Congress. To this point in the study, army divisions have been identified simply by their number, e.g. "7th Division." Hereinafter they will be identified as to type, e.g., "7th Infantry Division."

22. Roger W. Chickering, "Morale? It's Wonderful!," *Coast Artillery Journal* (September–October, 1942), pp. 46–48. Brian B. Chin, *Artillery at the Golden Gate, The Harbor Defenses of San Francisco in World War II* (Missoula: Pictorial Histories, 1994) gives the definitive history of the Coast Artillerymen in the first days of the war at San Francisco's harbor defenses. He captures the boredom and tediousness of duty in an isolated fire control station far from the comforts of barracks life.

23. *Ibid.*; Ninth Service Command, Station List, Army Service Forces, February 1, 1945.

24. U.S. Army, WDC, "Historical Record," p. 29; Robert C. Mikesh, *Japan's World War II Balloon Bomb Attack on North America* (Washington: Smithsonian Institution Press, 1973), pp. 2, 25–27, and 77.

25. Brian Garfield, *The Thousand-Mile War, World War II in Alaska and the Aleutians* (New York: Bantam Books, 1982). After its experiences in the Aleutians, the 7th Infantry Division went on to a distinguished battle record including Okinawa, "the Last Battle."

26. Report of the Commission on Wartime Relocation and Internment of Civilians, *Personal Justice Denied* (Washington: U.S. Government Printing Office, 1982), pp. 4–6 and 28–36; John Costello, *The Pacific War* (New York: Quill, 1982), pp. 11, 27, 32–33, and 211–212. For a detailed discussion of conditions in Hawaii prior to December 1941, see Gordon W. Prange, *At Dawn We Slept* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1981).

27. U.S. Army, WDC, "Historical Record," pp. 25–29. Military Area 1: western halves of Washington, Oregon, and California, and the southern half of Arizona. Military Area 2: the remaining portions of those states. Of the fifteen assembly centers, twelve of them were in California. The ten relocation projects or camps: Manzanar and Tule Lake in California, Poston and Gila in Arizona, Minidoka in Idaho, Heart Mountain in Wyoming, Granada in Colorado, Topaz in Utah, and Rohwer and Jerome in Arkansas.

28. *Personal Justice Denied*, p. 222; Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 144–145.

Issei — an immigrant from Japan

Nisei — first generation of ethnic Japanese born in America

Sansei — second generation

Kibei — Japanese Americans who received part of their education in Japan — three or more years after the age of 13

29. *Personal Justice Denied*, pp. 227, 230–231, and 262; U.S. Army, WDC, "Historical Record," p. 14. Delos C. Emmons graduated from West Point in 1909 and was commissioned a lieutenant assigned to the 30th Infantry Regiment. Stationed at the Presidio of San Francisco from 1909 to 1912, he left with the 30th for a tour in Alaska. While still at San Francisco, he had the opportunity to associate with other young, promising officers such as the Crissy brothers, Dana and Myron; Frederick Mears, and George Ruhlen, Jr. In 1914 the 30th Infantry returned to the Presidio for a stay of five months before moving on to New York. In 1917 Emmons transferred to the Signal Corps' aviation section. With the rank of major he returned to San Francisco in 1924 to command Crissy Field. In 1934 Lt. Colonel Emmons took charge of the 18th Composite Wing in Hawaii and served as air officer for the Hawaiian Department. By 1939, Maj. General Emmons commanded the General Headquarters Air Force and, in 1941, the Air Force Combat Command. That December he replaced Gen. Walter C. Short as commander of the Hawaiian Department when Short was relieved following the Pearl Harbor debacle. Emmons succeeded DeWitt as commander of the Western Defense Command in September 1943. Less than a year later he took command of the Alaska Department. In 1948 Lt. Gen. Delos Emmons retired from the U.S. Air Force. He died at San Francisco October 5, 1965, aged 77 years. *Webster's American Military Biographies*; Haller, *The Last Word in Airfields*, pp. 47 and 116. There is a conflict in dates between these two sources as to when Emmons commanded Crissy Field. The Haller dates are believed to be accurate.

30. *Army and Navy Journal*, November 27, 1943.

31. *Army and Navy Journal*, November 6, 1943 and August 26, 1944.

32. Robert J. Chandler, "Presidio Banking Facility," copy at the Presidio Army Museum; Voucher Files 1942–158 and 1945, Master Plans, Presidio of San Francisco. The war dog center had no known association with the Presidio's pet cemetery.

33. *Army and Navy Journal*, January 15 and March 18, 1944; Matloff, ed., *American Military History*, p. 463.

34. John Weckerling joined the Army in World War I as an enlisted man. By 1920 he held the commission of first lieutenant in the Regular Army. Following a tour in the Philippines he was sent to Tokyo in 1924 to study the Japanese language. In 1934 he returned to Tokyo as a military attaché. John Weckerling, "Japanese Americans Play Vital Role in United States Intelligence Service in World War II" (n.p., n.p., 1946).

35. Weckerling, "Japanese Americans;" Military Intelligence Service Association of Northern California and the National Japanese American Historical Society, *The Pacific War and Peace, Americans of Japanese Ancestry in Military Intelligence Service, 1941 to 1952* (San Francisco, 1991), p. 16; *The MISLS Album, 1946*, pp. 8–9; Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 19–20. The Nisei soldiers referred to themselves as "AJAs", Americans of Japanese Ancestry. For a superlative, firsthand account of Japanese-Americans in California at this time and of his own involvement with and observations of the language school, see Shigeya Kihara, interview, January 21, 1994, by Stephen A. Haller, NPS, Presidio Oral History Project.

36. Gene M. Uratsu, "Establishment of the U.S. Army Language School, November 1, 1941," *Communiqué*, 93: 1 and 5.

37. Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, p. 25; Uratsu, *Communiqué*, p. 5

38. Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 25 and 30; Uratsu, *Communiqué*, p. 5; Thomas T. Sakanoto, interview, January 19, 1994, by Stephen H. Haller, NPS, Presidio Oral History Project.

39. *Pacific War and Peace*, p. 16; *The MISLS Album*, p. 9; Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, p. 31; *Fifty Years of Silence, The Untold Story of Japanese American Soldiers in the Pacific Theater, 1941–1952* (Video, the Japanese-American Historical Society, 1993).

40. Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 24–43; *The MISLS Album*; Gene M. Uratsu, correspondence, November 1994.

41. During the early years of the war army personnel studied the Chinese language (Mandarin or Kuo-yii) at the University of California, Berkeley. In 1945 Chinese and Korean classes began at Fort Snelling. When the United States evacuated Japanese-Americans from the west coast in 1942, the U.S. Navy reluctantly closed its Japanese language school at Monterey.

42. "MIS, Military Intelligence Service, 50th Anniversary Reunion, Panel Discussion Program, October 30, 1991;" *The MISLS Album*," pp. 12–15; Weckerling, "Japanese Americans;" Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 341–342; *Fifty Years of Silence; Personal Justice Denied*, p. 255–260; *The Pacific War and Peace*; Anon., "Intelligence Observer with Task Force," Kwajalein, February 19, 1944, U.S. Marine Corps Records WWII, NA; Thelma Chang, "Secrets of War," ITT Sheraton's Hawaii, 8:59–64; Thomas T. Sakamoto, January 19, 1994, interview by Stephen A. Haller, NPS, Presidio Oral History Project; U.S. Army, *The Admiralties, Operations of the 1st Cavalry Division, 29 February–18 May, 1944* (Washington: U.S. Army, 1990), pp. 31–35.

43. Harrington, *Yankee Samurai*, pp. 309–310.

44. *Personal Justice Denied*, pp. 256 and 260; *The Pacific War and Peace*.

45. *The Pacific War and Peace*.

46. Haines Papers, Presidio Army Museum, PSF.

47. Joseph Warren "Vinegar Joe" Stilwell graduated from West Point in 1904. He served in the Philippines, at the Presidios of Monterey and San Francisco (the latter on paper only, being on detached service elsewhere), and in France in World War I. After the war he studied Chinese at the University of California at Berkeley. At that time he purchased property at Carmel, California, and later erected a house on it. In 1920 with the rank of major he was assigned to Peking (Beijing), China, and in 1928 served as chief of staff of U.S. forces in China. From 1935 to 1939 Stilwell was a military attache in China and Siam (Thailand). Returning to the United States he activated the 7th Infantry Division at Fort Ord. Two years later, Lt. General Stilwell commanded U.S. Army forces in the China-Burma-India theater and served as chief of staff to President Chiang Kai-shek of China. Unable to get along with Chiang, he was recalled to the United States in 1944, but returned to the Far East in 1945 upon the death of Gen. Simon Buckner on Okinawa. *Webster's American Military Biographies*; Tuchman, *Stilwell*, pp. 65 and 229.